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U.S. ASAT 'SATELLITE-KILLER' SYSTEM TESTED

LD221427 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 22 TASS -- The United States has tested an ASAT anti-satellite weapon system designed to destroy targets in low earth orbit.

The test involved firing a missile into space from an F-15 fighter flying very high up. An Airforce spokesman said the missile had not been trained on any specific object but, he said, further trials would involve special target satellites lifted off into orbit.

The U.S. Airforce plans to spend 1.4 billion dollars to develop and manufacture the satellite killer system. Its deployment, slated for as early as 1987, will cost tens of billions of dollars.

Commenting on the ASAT testing, CBS television stressed that thereby the United States had made another step forward in the arms race. The TV network recalled that the Soviet Union had proposed to the United States imposing a moratorium on the launches of anti-satellite weapons but the United States had ignored the proposal.

THE WASHINGTON POST said that as the Pentagon saw it, the ASAT system was intended for destroying Soviet space vehicles. Those Soviet systems, a U.S. Airforce spokesman said arrogantly, were an unacceptable threat to the United States since they undermined the U.S. Ground Forces' ability to perform their missions.

Many American scientists, politicians and public figures oppose the Reagan administration's plans to transfer the arms race to space because, they argue, this will undermine the entire process of achieving arms control.

The Union of Concerned Scientists, an influential American public organization, said in a statement that the testing of the ASAT satellite-killer system demonstrated the U.S. striving to launch a new and dangerous round of the arms race which, should it go ahead, would jeopardize the security of the United States and increase the risk of outbreak of nuclear war.

U.S. 'REPEATING FALSE ARGUMENTS' ON ARMS POLICY

LD212118 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 21 Jan 84

["Washington's False Arguments" -- commentary by Lieutenant General Dmitriy Antonovich Volkogonov, doctor of philosophy and professor]

[Text] American transport aircraft are continuing to deliver Pershings and cruise missiles to West Germany, Britain, and Italy. The shadows of such missiles are continuing to draw nearer to Western Europe, increasing the threat to peace. To date, several batteries of U.S. missiles have already been brought to combat readiness and are aimed at targets in the Soviet Union. Essentially, a step has been taken aimed at sharply shaking the balance of strategic forces in favor of the West and at achieving a consolidation of its military superiority. However, as Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, head to our party and state, said in his statement: This will not happen; we shall do everything to ensure that the military balance is not upset.

In order to camouflage its exceptionally dangerous policy, Washington resorts, as before, to political demagogy, and deception [dezinformatsiya]. This was the case, for instance in the U.S. President's 16 January address.

In order to reassure public opinion in his own country and especially in the West European countries, and to create a favorable background for the U.S. delegation at the Stockholm conference, the President made a long-winded speech on the radio, which he described as a challenge to peace [as heard].

However, behind the peace-loving rhetoric, he was unable to hide Washington's main concern: The United States wants peace on U.S. conditions. If the Soviet Union agrees to Washington's superiority, then there certainly will be peaceful coexistence. This political cynicism can be clearly seen from the fact that the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe is continuing.

Where today's key question of the intermediate-range missiles is concerned, the U.S. Administration does not cease repeating over and over again a few false arguments, through which it would like to justify itself in the eyes of the entire world.

The first false argument boils down to saying that the deployment of U.S. intermediate-range missiles in Europe is an absolute necessity, as Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, stated. After all -- and no one can refute this -- 938 Soviet delivery vehicles of nuclear weapons and 857 belonging to NATO are deployed here. However, regarding nuclear warheads carried by these means [sredstva], NATO has a superiority of almost 1.5 times over us.

The absurdity of its claim concerning nuclear missiles that the United States is lagging behind the Soviet Union is clear to everyone and, for that matter, also to the Pentagon. Washington needs these pharisaical claims only to justify its adventurist course toward achieving unilateral military advantages over the Soviet Union.

Apropos of those who are shouting about the red danger, Vladimir Ilich Lenin said as far back as 1917 that they are political swindlers who are pretending that they believe in this nonsense. By the way, even pretending in the face of evident falsity is not a simple matter. U.S. Democratic Senator Carlo [as heard] Levin, member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, in his recent report, "The Other Side of the Picture," came to the conclusion on the basis of his calculations that the Reagan administration is lying when it claims that the Soviets have a nuclear missiles superiority.

Another of Washington's false arguments is connected with the claims that allegedly the large-scale antimissile movement has been inspired by Moscow and depends on it. Nothing is further from the truth than this falsification. The fact that the Soviet Union's striving for peace and security and against fresh U.S. aggressive actions coincides objectively, regarding its thrust, with the large-scale public movement against the nuclear threat, only stresses the deep vitality and fateful [subdnosnyy] significance of Soviet foreign policy. Can one really explain only by so-called intrigues from outside the fact that late last year in the FRG, for instance 76 percent of those polled came out against the deployment of U.S. missiles, 62 percent in Italy, and 48 percent in Britain? Is it really not clear that as the broad masses are becoming aware of the role prepared for the NATO countries in Washington, this movement will gather strength? The scale of the antimissile movement in Europe has reached enormous proportions, irrespective of police repression, demagogy by official propaganda, and the wild outburst of anticommunism.

Finally, one more false argument by Washington's militarist propaganda lies in striving to place the blame for the breakdown of the talks on Geneva on the Soviet Union.

The U.S. President made the most of this [na eto nazhimal] in his 16 January speech. However, as the saying goes, he has given the game away. After all, the West had been warned long ago that the appearance of U.S. missiles in Western Europe would make the talks impossible.

In this way, by embarking on the deployment of nuclear missiles systems, the United States and its allies deliberately torpedoed the talks that they needed first and foremost as a screen, a cloak, and as a means of gaining the time required to prepare for the deployment of the missiles. This was said with full clarity by the head of the Soviet delegation at the Stockholm conference, Comrade Gromyko.

The Brussels Declaration, which was adopted recently by NATO, claims, however, that the deployment of the missiles allegedly would force the Soviet Union to again take its seat at the negotiating table. Yes, this can happen, but only when -- let us stress, only when, as was said by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov -- the United States and NATO how readiness to return to the situation that existed before deployment of U.S. intermediate-range missiles in Europe.

In order to mislead the public, Washington politicians -- Weinberger, Shultz, Nitze, and now Reagan in his latest speech -- are saying over and over again: Faced with our firmness, the Soviets will be forced to retreat. On the Pentagon's instructions, a report on the truth about the talks in Geneva, prepared by a special NATO consultative group, is being prepared for publication. One does not have to be a prophet to say beforehand what its contents will be. However, nothing can shake the indisputable fact that the Soviet Union itself honestly went halfway in Geneva. Accords are possible. During the 2 years of the talks, the U.S. delegation only attempted to disarm us at the negotiating table and did not submit a single constructive proposal.

Such are only a few of the false arguments of the pharisees from Washington and such are the real facts that show their complete inconsistency.

In the face of the increased threat, as was stated in the statement by the head of our party and state, the Soviet Union is undertaking specific countermeasures that will not allow the West to upset the military balance. The press has already reported that our units of enhanced-range tactical missiles are already being deployed on the territory of the countries that are our allies. The Soviet Union is doing this in order to ensure that the level of the threat to the United States itself should also be adequate, equal, to the level that the U.S. missiles in Europe represent to the Soviet Union. No one in Washington should be mistaken about this. Our answer is firm and resolute. After all, we understand that the higher the defense might of our state and the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces, the less is the probability that the aggressor will embark on a nuclear adventure.

PRACTICE OF LINKING TRUST WITH VERIFICATION HIT

LD222044 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Jan 84

[From the "International Panorama" program; by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] Hello, comrades! As you know, the current week has been full of events. The meeting of foreign ministers of 35 states in the Swedish capital has become a new important landmark in the all-European process. The "torch of hope," which was lit in Helsinki, has been carried on from Madrid to Stockholm. The Soviet Union's position, as Comrade Gromyko illustrated in his speech, consists of the Helsinki Final Act being practically developed in Stockholm in new important accords. First and foremost, this is a question of averting a nuclear war. How trust would be strengthened if every state which possesses nuclear weapons made the commitment not to be the first to use them. The Soviet Union recalled from the conference platform that it had already made this commitment. The other nuclear powers represented at Stockholm have still not done so.

Another important measure of trust is the mutual commitment of states not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other -- in other words, not to use force. It was precisely this which the Warsaw Pact member states had in mind when a year ago they tabled a proposal to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of force and maintaining peaceful relations.

Their third appeal -- to reach an accord on reducing military budgets -- would be a big contribution to strengthening trust. The USSR also appealed to the conference to regard with attention the idea of creating nuclear-free zones, and recalled that it supports the proposal to proclaim northern Europe a zone free of nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union has expressed its readiness to considerably extend and augment confidence-building measures in the military field, which were agreed upon in Helsinki. In so doing, of course, one has to proceed from the mandate agreed in Madrid where it is recorded that any decisions on confidence-building and security measures should be adopted on the basis of equality of rights, balance, reciprocity, and equal respect for the security of all the participating states. Any attempts to seek instead of this chinks in the fence so as to see what one's neighbor is doing can only hinder the work of the Stockholm conference.

How did the United States and its NATO partners react to these proposals? First and foremost, they have taken up arms against the more cardinal measures capable of reducing the danger of a war in Europe. They claim that any commitments not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, not to use force and to set up nuclear-free zones are nothing more than a declaration of intent which, they say, cannot be verified, and therefore discussion of these questions in Stockholm is somehow out of place and can only detract the conference from real practical tasks.

NATO links trust with verification [prosmtrivayemost], and so-called "transparency" [transparentnost]. But "see-through" fashion is one thing; there's no point in arguing about taste, as they say. When, in referring to "transparency," NATO keeps talking just about inspections and verifications [proverki], one can't help expressing doubts -- aren't they just worried precisely about looking for chinks in the fence?

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD221727 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 22 Jan 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program, presented by Vladimir Yakovlevich Tsvetov, all-union radio and television political observer; with Aleksandr Yevgenyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer; and Gennadiy Ivanovich Geramisov, editor in chief of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI]

Soviet Peace Initiatives

[Text] [Tsvetov] Hello, comrades. Before starting the talk, I would like to quote a letter that I received from our regular listener Vladimir Savelyevich Makarov who lives in Minsk. Vladimir Savelyevich, participant in the Great Patriotic War and veteran of labor, writes: He who came to know what war is has undoubtedly understood that war is a crime against humanity. This is, indeed, the way we talk about the World War II. But now, Vladimir Savelyevich Makarov goes on, war is also insanity, since it threatens mankind with complete destruction. I have received a letter from an old Japanese acquaintance who, like many Japanese, very pragmatically looks around him, looking at, among other things, problems of war and peace. If, before the appearance of nulear arms, war seemed to some, say, to arms manufacturers, to be a profitable business, the Japanese man writes, now, when everything could be swept away by nuclear war, any person with a mercenary motivation who has common sense must admit that war is not only unprofitable, it is impossible.

If ones turns to the Soviet peace initiatives, one sees how fully they reflect not only the strivings of the Soviet people and the peoples of socialist countries, who consider the struggle for peace to be their class duty and their moral obligation, but also the hopes of those in capitalist countries that approach this problem with a calculator in hand. The statement of 29 September 1983 by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, for instance, says: "We do not separate, let alone set up in opposition, the welfare of our people and the security of the Soviet state from the welfare and the security of other peoples and other countries. In a nuclear age, the statement says, it is impossible to look at the world through the hole of narrow selfish interests. Responsible state figures, the statement stresses, have one choice: to do everything in order to prevent nuclear disaster. Any other position is shortsighted, more than that, suicidal.

Today the eyes of all people on earth are fixed on Stockholm where the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe has opened and where Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, spoke. Shortly before the conference, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov replied to the French movement, Appeal or 100. His reply points out to that not a single opportunity, not a single chance should be missed for a return to the path of negotiations with the aim of reducing nuclear arms both in the West and in the East. This is the position from which the USSR is participating in the Stockholm conference, because we have no doubts as to which choice to adopt -- we always do everything to prevent a nuclear disaster. It seems to me that it would be right to start our talk with a discussion of the place occupied by the Stockholm conference in international life. Gennadiy Ivanovich, how would you appraise its place?

Stockholm CDE Conference

[Gerasimov] Stockholm came after Helsinki, Belgrade and Madrid. The conference in the Swedish capital continues the process that started in the Finnish capital in 1975. But Stockholm also came after Geneva, that is, after the end of talks in that Swiss city on limiting and reducing nuclear arms in Europe. Those talks lost their meaning with the beginning of the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Europe. Since Stockholm came after Geneva, it became the first West-East meeting after a sharp deterioration in their relationship. Although the mandate of the conference itself is limited at this stage to confidence-building measures and the meeting in Stockholm cannot replace other diplomatic forums, the possibility for making a turn for the better probably still exists. In any case, when Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko spoke at the conference, he said that the USSR will strive toward making this conference contribute significantly to correcting interstate relations. Our country favors an atmosphere of confidence in relations between countries.

[Tsvetov] Well, naturally such speech by Comrade Gromyko evoked a large-scale response in the world. But before I give a brief account of this response I would like to recall the words of Vladimir Ilich Lenin. Vladimir Ilich said that there are very many pacifist phrases, talks and assurances and sometimes even oaths being sounded in the world against war, whereas when it comes to readiness to take actual, even the most simple, steps to secure peace very little of this is seen in most states. And we would have liked, Vladimir Ilich stressed, to see here much less of the general statements, solemn promises, and flowery formulas and much more of the most simple, most clear decisions and measures that would really lead to peace.

I have before me a few foreign newspapers with responses to Comrade Gromyko's speech in Stockholm. The precise and clear speech by the Soviet representative contained an appeal to stop the dangerous sliding of mankind toward the abyss, writes, for instance the British MORNING STAR. The same newspapers give an appraisal of the speech given at the conference by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. A torrent of words containing no constructive proposals and no political realism, is the opinion of the Bulgarian RABOTNICHESKO DELO. And so, those clear and decisive measures that really lead to peace, as Vladimir Ilich said, are from the Soviet side; and the absence, as Vladimir Ilich pointed out, of a readiness to take effective steps is on the part of the United States. It seems to me that the very reaction to Comrade Gromyko's speech allows one to judge the luggage that various countries have taken with them to the Stockholm conference.

[Bovin] Well, here one can probably already say now that after the first speeches, the speeches by the foreign ministers, by Gromyko, Shultz, and other ministers, two different approaches to the tasks of this first stage of the Stockholm conference immediately became outlined. Our approach -- well, I would have called it an all-embracing approach, so to speak -- because Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko says that we should not narrow our possibilities at the conference. We should simultaneously consider both the large-scale confidence-building measures -- such as the statement that no one will be first to use nuclear arms, about the nonuse of force, about, say, a nuclear-free zone, and the banning of chemical weapons in Europe, that is the large-scale measures for building up confidence -- and these would be combined with the more concrete measures that started in Helsinki.

Confidence-Building Measures

[Tsvetov] You mean, Aleksandr Yevgenyevich, the advance notification of military maneuvers and inviting observers from other countries to them. We know that such measures have already been implemented; they have turned out to be very useful, and the range of these measures can be broadened. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko discussed this in detail at the conference. However, something greater is offered in the speech by Comrade Gromyko. As it appears to me, the question is put this way. However important the measures of military confidence are, be it those that are already being implemented or the possible new ones, the main road toward political, I would say, confidence still lies via the general normalization of the situation.

[Bovin] Here is our position: to combine these two types, or two classes, of measures for strengthening mutual confidence. And the approach of the West here is one-sided: that is, out of hand they rule out -- and do not even want to say anything about -- the large-scale measures for confidence-building, while wanting to concentrate all attention on only those concrete military-technical measures. If one were to talk about these measures, then what is typical of, say, the U.S. position? They give priority to the problem of control, the problem of information. This is, for instance, Shultz's first point: to exchange information about the organization and location of our corresponding armed forces. Of course, the problem of control is important -- nobody denies this. But first of all, one should agree about what should be controlled and later decided how to control.

[Gerasimov] I think, Aleksandr Yevgenyevich, that here we are going off into precisely those technical details in which the conference may drown. In Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's speech, the question is put fundamentally: Of course, the conference in Stockholm should help to restore confidence in the international atmosphere. But can one talk of this confidence when the U.S. policy is now such that it is very difficult to find any possibilities for this....

[Bovin] Yes, one encounters this paradox, because on the one hand the Americans keep talking about this confidence and on the other hand, they install new missiles in Europe. So what talk can there be in principle about confidence when there is yet another, and yet another missile against us?

[Geramisov] The USSR had adopted a pledge not to be first to use nuclear weapons. The United States refuses to make such a pledge.

[Bovin] More than that, it does not only refuse. NATO figures are saying emphatically: No. This doctrine of first use of nuclear weapons remains immutable. We shall take this as our point of departure. We have done so in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

[Gerasimov] The next issue of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI will include a letter received from the United States from the leaders of an organization called "For No First Use of Nuclear Weapons." In it they write that indeed, if the United States refuses, under any pretext, to give such an assurance, how will it be possible to trust the United States?

Another example is the pathological obsession with military construction -- more and more new military systems. A third is the militarist course in world affairs.

[Tsvetov] We have thus focused on two opposite viewpoints. But at the Stockholm conference, neutral and nonaligned countries are also represented, and, as the foreign press writes, particularly the press of the neutral and nonaligned countries themselves, their role at this conference may be very great.

[Gerasimov] One can understand them, since they are supporters of detente in Europe.

[Bovin] Incidentally, the experience of Madrid shows that there is a reason for this. You remember the situation in Madrid. It was precisely the compromise worked out first by this group of neutral and nonaligned countries that helped to lead Madrid out of stalemate. I do not by any means rule out the possibility that to some extent that model may be repeated here too at this conference. Of course, it is difficult as yet to talk about this. The conference has only just begun.

Reagan's Election Considerations

[Gerasimov] On Monday President Ronald Reagan made a speech timed for the opening of the Stockholm conference. In it he used some expressions previously strange to him, such as constructive dialogue, the common interest of our countries in maintaining peace.

[Tsvetov] As the U.S. press noted, this speech was aimed less at Moscow than at the U.S. voters, but I think the speech was directed at three parties: Moscow, of course; then the U.S. voters -- or perhaps the other way around; the U.S. voters first and Moscow second -- and of course the participants in the Stockholm conference.

[Bovin] I would call that a kind of world record for hypocrisy. I would like, if you please, to read one paragraph from Reagan's speech, just to give the comrades some idea how it is done. Reagan says: We live in times in which a threat to peace exists, but at the same time there also exist favorable opportunities for peace. Fine. Throughout periods of difficulties and despair, America's highest aim remains unchanged. We are now struggling, and will continue to struggle, for a firm peace that will foster an increase in the dignity of men and women throughout the world. He goes on: It seems to me that the United States is entering 1984 adopting the strongest positions for many years for establishing constructive and realistic working relations with the Soviet Union. What does this mean? Reagan broke off the political dialogue between us and the Americans. Reagan adopted a program of arms modernization unprecedented even for America, and this he calls America now having its strongest positions for constructive relations. That is the logic; that is the logic.

[Gerasimov] Reagan is obviously fighting for peace, too. He fights for peace when he occupies Grenada. He is apparently fighting for peace when he shells Lebanese towns and villages with the heavy guns of his battleships.

[Bovin] It turns out that the worse the position really is and the tenser our relations with America, the more Reagan pretends that, on the contrary, nothing terrible is happening, everything is normal, there is hope for peace. The line of thought being pursued is this: The Soviet Union has now been persuaded that America is strong, this is just the time the USSR will agree to start talking business with the United States. Such is the logic.

[Tsvetov] It is absurd logic. The USSR is prepared to conduct constructive negotiations on the basis of equal rights, balance and mutuality, and equal respect for each other's security interests. But the USSR will never conduct talks under threat, just as it has done in all its history.

[Gerasimov] Of course a huge role in the drafting and delivery of this speech was played by election considerations.

[Bovin] Undoubtedly.

[Gerasimov] The Democrats had criticized Reagan for his excessively hard line, and look at him now. He now seems peace-loving. He seems to be almost reaching out his hand to the USSR. In this way he disarms the Democrats, if one believes what he says.

[Bovin] He is saying that relations with the USSR must be improved. Above all we must find ways to reduce, and finally eliminate the use of force and the threat of its use in settling international arguments. He says this after Grenada. He says this when the same marines are in Lebanon. He says this while Americans are fighting in Central America. And after all this Reagan suddenly declares that his main course is toward improved relations with the USSR.

[Gerasimov] I might remind you that we were in favor of dialogue with the Reagan administration. In February 1981, when he had only just taken office, from the authoritative podium of the 26th CPSU Congress, this was said: Let us normalize our relations. We are for dialogue at all levels, including the highest level. Three years have now passed. For 3 years the administration has declined dialogue. Now it talks about it only to don the mantle of peace-lover. But as for the USSR, as Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko said in Stockholm, we are in favor of East-West dialogue, on the understanding, of course, that this is aimed at reducing tension in the world and removing the threat of war, not in words but in deeds. Stockholm provides a forum for this dialogue. There are opportunities here. But they will be lost -- their loss is already starting -- if the United States clings to the position that everything is all right, that its stance is completely correct and that there is no point in changing it.

World Political Climate

[Tsvetov] Comrade Gromyko's speech at the Stockholm conference expressed the thought that for the people of Europe, the events taking place in the Middle East and Central America are not a fire on a distant shore, that the fire in Lebanon could easily envelop the Mediterranean. Grenada, which has fallen victim to U.S. aggression, and Nicaragua, where U.S. aggression is completely obvious, are countries situated further from Europe than Lebanon. But everything that is now happening in Central America also undoubtedly exerts an influence on Europe, since this is a manifestation of militarism. This manifestation cannot help influencing the general political climate in the world, including Europe.

[Bovin] From the standpoint of Western Europe, of course the Americans have overstepped all bounds, and policy there must be changed. But what has Reagan done? He appointed a two-party national commission on Central America, lead by Kissinger, and the commission prepared a report. What sort of report is it?

In essence, it completely follows the policy Reagan has been pursuing up to now. Just look: That action in Grenada had significance beyond the framework of Grenada. The Americans showed that the Vietnam syndrome was over and done with, and that they were prepared to use force wherever necessary to defend their vital interests. What is happening now? The Americans have several thousand of their troops in Honduras. The formal reason is participation in maneuvers, but everybody understands that, given the de facto war being waged by the anti-Sandinista rebels based in Honduras, the task of the Americans is to strengthen the rebels' rear. In the United States now, the question whether or not Reagan will carry out direct intervention in Nicaragua is being debated from all sides. As far as I can judge, the majority considers that he is unlikely to take the risk.

[Gerasimov] From the point of view of election considerations, he must, whether he likes it or not, adopt this peace-loving position.

[Bovin] You know.

[Gerasimov] This incidentally is not bad, because it means that he feels that the U.S. voter will not support a war-like stance.

[Bovin] At any rate, the present course is to strengthen political and military pressure on Nicaragua, using other people's efforts, so to speak, with the aid of the insurgents, for the time being, and to force the Sandinista government to change its policy. At the moment, that is the course. It is still hard to say how it will be modified in the future. In any case, if Reagan accepts Kissinger's recommendations, as he most probably will with some minor variations, this means continuing massive military aid to these most reactionary regimes in Central America, it also means further tightening the knots that already exist there.

[Tsvetov] But the world is now very small, and no matter what happens in Central America, therefore, all this exerts an influence in one way or another on the situation in other parts of the world.

[Bovin] I think that the Europeans are very negative and it is with great suspicion and caution that they are observing this situation now in Western Europe. And the events in Grenada, what's more, have shown this because even the British and practically all the NATO allies have failed to give their support to this action, and generally they are all waiting in a state of alarm to see whether Reagan is again going to indulge in adventures there. Another line, say, is the Near East. Although there is partial support there for Reagan, and the British, and, say, the Italians and the French are taking part in these multinational forces, essentially, of course, they are also frightened that the Reagan policy of adventures will lead to an exacerbation of the situation in the Near East. The Europeans are much more cautious there. The Italians have started to pull out from there -- this is one of the indicators of the contradictions between the Americans and Western Europe.

Reagan's 'Confrontation' Policy

[Tsvetov] The West German WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE stresses: Among the United States's European allies concern is growing in connection with Reagan's course toward confrontation. At the other end of the world the TOKYO SHIMBUN writes: Reagan's sharp anti-Soviet position -- and he is trying to implement a policy of acting from a position of strength toward the USSR -- is giving rise to criticism not only in the United States but also in Western Europe.

[Gerasimov] They have themselves started to talk just a little bit differently as far as their tone is concerned in order to drown this criticism in some way.

[Bovin] Of course the Americans understand that these contradictions really do exist, but again not wanting to change the essence they change the words, they change the words in order to show the Europeans: Please do take a look, we are in favor of peace, we are willing to cooperate with the Soviet Union, but the Russians have dug in their heels, they do not want to continue the talks, they do not want to continue the dialogue, whereas we certainly are in favor of this. But I have to say that generally the European people are rather more perspicacious than the Americans evidently think, and judging by the way in which the European press responded to Reagan's speech it understands this perfectly. Very many observers in Western Europe understand the false bottom of this speech.

[Tsvetov] And how can one fail to spot the false bottom when the absurdity that marks the Washington administration's policy is seizing the attention even of those Americans who are not schooled in the art of reflecting seriously. The more weapons there are the firmer will be the peace. That is how the absurdity of Washington runs if one removes all the wordy husk.

[Gerasimov] But of course despite the fact that Reagan has now sharply stepped up America's military might Americans -- a majority of them -- understand that they feel themselves to have less security and not more security. Reagan says that living in the world has become more secure. But if you ask anyone else hardly anyone will agree. When they asked Olof Palme, the Swedish prime minister, he replied of course not. Of course, living in the world has become less secure than it used to be. And of course there are many people who agree with this.

[Tsvetov] In his speech in Stockholm, Comrade Gromyko gave an extremely precise appraisal of the course of the American administration and of the consequences of this course. It is maniacal militarism, aggressiveness, a pathological obsession with the arms race. And the consequence is a serious threat to peace. However, to state openly in our day and age that I am a militarist, I want the nuclear destruction of mankind means political suicide, and the American administration, having revived the cold war, acts in accordance with the principle: In war it's alright to lie and to cheat, but you must not get caught. The only thing is that it is very difficult not to get caught.

[Gerasimov] On the one hand there is talk about willingness to reach agreement with the Soviet Union about something, while on the other there is talk -- and a Congressional report on this subject is soon to be published -- there is talk about some supposed violations of disarmament agreements by the Soviet side. There they have found some seven violations, and among others one that the Soviet Union is allegedly violating the 1925 Geneva protocol, that it is supposedly waging chemical warfare in Afghanistan, although the Soviet Government has repeatedly stated that this is falsehood and slander. As a result, the argument goes, how indeed can one reach agreement with the Soviet side if the Soviet side does not keep its word?

The WASHINGTON POST reported a few days ago that officials from the Pentagon and the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency consider that particular hopes should not be placed upon agreements in the arms control and disarmament field. Why? Supposedly for the reason that the advantages they give are fewer than expected.

In the light of utterances like these what, then, is the value of assertions about a willingness to reach agreement? Or I can give another example of the two-fold nature -- it sounds like the two-track decision, so-called -- of the two-faced nature of American policy. The Warsaw Pact countries proposed that chemical weapons should be banned in Europe. What does Shultz say in Stockholm? He says that the United States will soon propose a draft treaty banning chemical weapons altogether.

[Bovin] As if there had been absolutely no proposal from the Warsaw Pact.

[Gerasimov] That is what he says, but Pentagon officials report that the Pentagon intends to demand millions of dollars in addition in the 1985 financial year for the additional production of nerve gase. That is an example of two-track policy, in words and in deeds.

[Tsvetov] In conclusion, I would like to return again to the Stockholm conference. Palme, the Swedish prime minister, said when he opened the conference: Mankind hopes that the accords that may be reached at this conference will lay the foundation for a lowering of arms levels. Cheysson, minister of external relations of France, noted that the Stockholm forum is a place where it is possible to discuss issues of security and arms control, and it is capable of encouraging the solution of the most difficult problems of war and peace. The Soviet Union would like the conference indeed to take decisions the implementation of which would encourage peace on the European Continent. This would radically change the situation throughout the globe. And this is what will take place if -- as was pointed out in Comrade Gromyko's speech at the conference -- attempts are not made to put forward deliberately unacceptable demands, to seek at the conference not a strengthening of confidence but a chink in the fence through which one may subsequently peep at what is going on in one's neighbor's house. This is the point of view of the socialist countries. The Political Declaration of the Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee reflects the wide-scale and long-term ideas that open up the path toward the second stage of detente. The ideas were given concrete form in precise and realistic proposals for solving the most important issues for the present day, both military, strategic, and political. These ideas were voiced in the speeches by Comrade Gromyko and by the foreign ministers of the socialist countries. Thus the initial stage of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and on Disarmament in Europe has been marked by the proposal of the socialist camp not to let pass one single opportunity, to use the words of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov in his reply to the French Appeal of 100 not a single chance to return to the path of talks with the purpose of reducing nuclear armaments. This will bring along with it a general normalization of the situation, and consequently the coming into being of confidence in relations between countries.

At this point we conclude our program. Thank you for your attention. All the best to you.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD201928 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 84

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Viktor Anikin, foreign political commentator for All-Union Radio, Yuriy Emmanuilovich Kornilov, TASS political observer, and Boris Vasiliyevich Andrianov, foreign political commentator for All-Union Radio]

[Excerpts] [Anikin] In letters addressed to our program, the majority of you, comrades, note that the past year has brought a further complication of the international situation. No doubts arise in anyone's mind about who is the source of the increased tension. It is the ruling circles of the United States, which have declared a crusade against socialism and the national liberation movement. The fallaciousness and the danger of this course by Washington are condemned by Comrade Mokin from Sverdlovsk, Comrade Chernyayev from the village of Nagavskaya in Volgograd Oblast, a group of medical workers from the Ukrainian town of Sumy, Anna Stepanovna Rashko from Kiev, Demidovich from the town of Dokshitsyy in Vitebsk Oblast and by many, many others. Together with all people of common sense on our planet, you, while making an appeal for peace, assert that human reason must triumph in preventing a nuclear catastrophe. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are consistently struggling for this in the international arena. These days everyone's attention is attracted to Stockholm, where a conference is taking place on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe. I invite TASS political observer Yuriy Emmanuilovich Kornilov to talk about its work and about the aims of its participants:

Stockholm Forum Analyzed

[Kornilov] For several days now the flags of 33 European states as well as of the United States and Canada have been flying over the Stockholm Cultural Center, where the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe is continuing its work. This forum is at the center of attention of the international public and press. And this is natural, because the Stockholm conference, which is the manifestation of a reasonable principle in international relations, is faced with important and serious tasks, the solution of which could be conducive to strengthening trust between states and, consequently, also to alleviation of the international tension.

The Stockholm forum, as is known, has been convened in accordance with decisions adopted at the Madrid meeting of representatives of the 35 participant states in the European Conference on Security and Cooperation. Although Madrid and Stockholm are only a little over 4 months apart the international climate has become even hotter over that period. This is connected, first and foremost, with the fact that the dialogue on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe has been broken off through the fault of the U.S. Administration. Instead of talks and the aspiration to seek agreement, Washington has openly taken a course toward disruption of the balance of forces which has come about. In these conditions the role and responsibility of all states grows particularly for the cause of returning international relations to the course of strengthening security in Europe and beyond.

[Anikin] When commenting on the course and tasks of the Stockholm meeting, many organs of the international press state that, even in the first days of that forum's work, two different and, moreover, directly opposing approaches have emerged with regard to the problems which are the subject of discussion.

[Kornilov] Yes. That is indeed so. On one hand there is the position of the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community and of all peace-loving states, who are convinced that the will of peoples for peace and cooperation can and, consequently, must, be embodied in Stockholm in weighty accords which are in the interest of peace. While widely discussing and commenting on the speech at the conference by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR minister of foreign affairs, prominent political and public figures of various countries and the press stress the principled nature, the consistency, and the constructiveness of the position taken by the Soviet Union in Stockholm, which indicates that the main path to trust and to the prevention of war is through halting the arms race and returning to calm and correct relations between states and to detente.

The Soviet Union has unilaterally taken upon itself a pledge not to be first to use nuclear weapons, and our country stresses that trust would be strengthened to an enormous degree if other states were also to take such a pledge upon themselves. The Soviet Union calls upon all states to reject the use of military force or the threat of force. Our country favors a solution to the problem of reducing military expenditure. ridding Europe from barbaric chemical weapons, the creation of nonnuclear zones in various areas of our continent, and other steps conducive to strengthening trust and the alleviation of tension. In other words, and this is stressed in particular these days by the international press, the Soviet Union not only proclaims its aspiration to do everything to give the Stockholm forum a positive, businesslike mood right from the beginning, but it is also advancing a wide spectrum of specific, major and truly constructive initiatives, the implementation of which would be a weighty contribution to the positive, general European process which was begun in Helsinki.

[Anikin] However, it is obvious that this process can develop successfully only if all participants in it give material substance in deed to the concept of detente. But what is the position of the United States?

[Kornilov] Although Wasnington also speaks out in favor of the development of this process in words, Viktor Viktorovich, in favor of success for the Stockholm meeting, it is in reality continuing more and more impudently to torpedo the very bases of detente and of trust between states. It is specifically Washington which is attempting at all costs to squeeze socialism, to rewrite history; it is persistently, although vainly, attempting at any price to disrupt the approximate parity whch has come about in Europe and the world; the military-strategic parity, in order to ensure for itself a dominating position in the world by acquiring military superiority. It is specifically Washington which considers force and the nuclear stick as almost the only factor of its foreign policy; it is transforming West Europe into its nuclear hostage and is declaring almost the entire planet to be a sphere of vital U.S. interests.

NATO, U.S. Propaganda

These days the gigantic machine of U.S. and NATO propaganda has been turned on at full steam. It is attempting to drum into people's heads that Washington is now acting in the the international arena almost in the role of some kind of universal peacemaker. But in our time, the people judge the policy of one or another state, of one or another government, not by its words but by its deeds.

And one needs only to juxtapose Washington's words with its real deeds and instead of the image of a peace maker there appears before us the image of an aggressor and a militarist. Through the lips of President Reagan and, after him, through the lips of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz -- who spoke in Stockholm -- Washington is making assurances and sundry to all about its own love of peace. It is continuing its line toward an unrestrained whipping up of the arms race, as a result of which the Pentagon budget for fiscal 1984 has reached $280 billion -- a record sum for the country's history.

Washington is procliaming its aspiration for fruitful and constructive dialogue on the most important problem of the day -- the problem of disarmament -- and it is frustrating, exploding, driving into blind alleys all talks on this problem, whether it is a matter of limiting nuclear weapons in Europe, reducing of strategic armaments or the banning of chemical weapons. At the same time, Washington is attempting to lull the people of West Europe with false promises of peace under the shadow of U.S. missiles. Finally, Washington swears adherence to the principle of the sovereignty of states, to the cause of democracy and human rights. At the same time it carries out a brigand-like invasion of Grenada: it is literally tearing Lebanon to pieces; it throws bands of mercenaries and terrorists against sovereign Nicaragua, supports the butchering regime which is usurping power in El Salvador, threatens revolutionary Cuba, and continues the escalation of an undeclared war against sovereign Afghanistan.

[Anikin] However, Yuriy Emmanuilovich, the actions of the present Washington administration don't add up. Because, while appreciating short-term advantages, they engage so painstakingly in the proclamation of their own love of peace. People know well the value of such methods. However sophisticated they become in deceit -- be it crude or skillfull -- the real state of affairs is not changed. A turn is required in essence, from the policy of militarism and aggression to a policy of peace and international cooperation.

[Kornilov] Washington's efforts have blown up to an improbable scale the myth about the Soviet threat, the invention about the omnipresent hand of Moscow, and other cliches and stereotypes of bourgeois propaganda which set one's teeth on edge. These slanderous inventions serve as a smokescreen to cover the United States' imperial aspirations. They also try to use them to weaken the mighty international influence of the Soviet peace initiatives and to arouse a situation of fear, suspicion, and hostility between peoples. All of these actions are counter to the tasks of the Stockholm forum. There is no need for any attempt to transform the conference into an arena of fruitless confrontation, to advance deliberately unacceptable demands, to seek not the strengthening of trust but goals which directly opposed to it -- any such attempts can only hinder productive work by participants in the Stockholm meeting.

The people of Europe, and not only Europe, expect solutions from that forum, the implementation of which would turn the development of events to the better and would strengthen faith that detente in Europe has a durable reserve of vital energy. The international community hopes and believes that -- contrary to all the schemes of the enemies of peace and the foes of detente -- common sense and reason will gain the upper hand in Stockholm, that the participants in that forum will display a political will which is directed not toward the destruction, but toward the strengthening of healthy principles in international relations, that they will not allow the conference to be distracted from the cardinal problems of trust and security.

Lebanon Situation

[Anikin] Stefan Ivanovich Ladkov from the village of (Mazepino), Belgorod Oblast, and Muscovite Mikhail Alekseyevich Burmatov asks what UN troops are and what their purpose is.

Now a few words about the UN armed forces in the Middle East. They include the forces sent there in 1974 to observe the separation of the Syrian and Israeli troops on the cease-fire line between the two countries, and the UN Interim Forces in southern Lebanon, who have been operating there since 1978. The latter were sent to Lebanon after the large-scale intervention by the Israeli military, to restore peace, stability, and the sovereignty of the Lebanese Government in the southern regions of the republic. These forces number 7,000 from 11 states. However, they have been unable to carry out their task because of the obstructionist policy of Israel and its backer, the United States. Moreover, in the summer of 1982, Tel Aviv, sanctioned by Washington, committed a new aggression against Lebanon, and the UN forces were unable to stop this. This was influenced by the limited nature of their capabilities and powers and the complicity with the aggressors shown by the contingents of a number of NATO countries, who allowed Israeli troops to pass through their control zones without any opposition.

It must be noted that the Western powers have on more than one occasion, in violation of the UN Charter, used the institution of the armed forces of the world organization for their own political interests. This happened, for example, in 1950: In the absence of the Soviet representative at the Security Council, they pushed through the decision to create the so-called UN joint forces, which became a screen for U.S. aggression against the DPRK. In the Congo in 1960, the blue helmets were virtually a tool in the struggle against the progressive government of that country as a result of Western maneuvers.

While supporting in principle the use of UN Armed Forces, the USSR firmly supports their use being decided only in the Security Council and then with the strict observation of the principle of unanimity of its five permanent members as is written in the charter of the world organization.

Situation in Korea

Judging from the letters we receive, many listeners are interested in the problems of the the Far East. Several listeners ask in particular to be told why the Korean people continue to be divided into two parts. The Nikolskiy brothers from Bobryusk ask, for example, whether anything is being done to unite Korea into one state. I ask our commentator Boris Vasiliyevich Andrianov to answer these questions.

[Andrianov] The reasons for the division of Korea go back to events which took place almost 40 years ago.

It was none other than the Washington politicians who called the Korean peninsula a dagger -- if you possessed it, it could be used to slice up any portion of Asian territory. By the way, the United States tried to get its hands on this dagger in 1950 when it unleashed an aggressive war against the DPRK, which had been created in the north of the peninsula.

[Anikin] I think, Boris Vasiliyevich, that this short excursion into history clearly stresses how, presently, there is still continuity in the line that links the possession of an important strategic strongpoint on the Korean peninsula with the formation of U.S. Far East policy.

[Andrianov] Recalling these historical facts is, I think, also essential in order to understand the main reason why there is no juridically drawn-up peace on the Korean peninsula to this day -- there is only an armistice. An agreement on this was signed on 27 July 1953. An entire generation of Koreans has since grown up in a country divided into two parts by the demarcation line that runs along the 38th parallel. Washington and its Seoul puppets tried to emphasize the immovability of this line by building a 5-meter high 240-km ferroconcrete wall along the line from east to west across the whole Korean peninsula. It is taken as a visible symbol of the policy of U.S. imperialism aimed at perpetuating the division of Korea.

However, the armistice agreement that ended the war imposed on the Korean people by the United States did not envisage the preservation of this division. The agreement mentioned the need, within a month of the signing of the document, to convene an international conference to establish measures aimed at the peaceful democratic reunification of Korea. However, the United States and the other Western countries that were Washington's accomplices in the aggressive war against the DPRK were not interested in creating a united democratic state on the Korean peninsula. It was precisely as a result of their obstructions that the Geneva conference of foreign ministers of the five great powers was unable in 1954 to make any progress on such an urgent problem.

The Seoul authorities then stubbornly hindered the peaceful solution of this important national question. They refused to respond positively to the many constructive proposals made by the DPRK to normalize the situation in Korea. The essence of these proposals amounted to undertaking joint steps to withdraw all foreign troops from the country, cease the arms race, reduce the armies of the north and south, and remove military confrontation.

[Anikin] At one time, it is true, the impression was created that the ice had shifted little and that Seoul was showing readiness for talks. This was, I think, 11 years ago.

[Andrianov] Yes, during the summer of 1972. At that time, the process of international detente was beginning to take on the nature of the leading tendencies in world development. This process also touched the Korean peninsula, and even more so since the government and public of the DPRK consistently and persistently came out for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. As a result of their efforts, Seoul, which was even feeling the pressure from the patriotic forces of South Korea, was forced to enter into talks with Pyongyang. On 4 June of that year, a joint statement of the north and south was published. What the basic principle of that document amounts to is that the unification of the country must be achieved on a peaceful and democratic basis by the efforts of the Koreans themselves, without relying on external forces and without any external interference. However, the peace dialogue that began then, within the framework of the coordinating committee of north and south, soon came to an impasse -- for which Seoul is to blame -- and then was finally wrecked by it.

[Anikin] I think that when we speak of the Korean prolem, one cannot avoid devoting attention to our country's position and its attitude on this question.

[Andrianov] This has been and still is manifested in specific actions by the USSR, in particular in the UN.

For example, in 1962 at the intiative of the Soviet delegation, the question of the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea was included on the agenda of the UN General Assembly as an independent point for the first time. It should be stressed that our country has applied great efforts aimed at solving this question at the international forum. However, the first practical results of these efforts did not appear immediately. Only in 1975 was there a noteworthy change in the discussion of the Korean question, which had gone on for many years in the UN. At the intiative of the USSR and 42 other states, the 30th session of the General Assembly for the first time adopted a resolution reflecting the just position of the DPRK on this question. The resolution was entitled: On the Creation of Favorable Conditions for Transforming the Armistice in Korea into a Firm Peace and Accelerating the Independent Peaceful Unification of Korea. What is the importance of this document? The resolution recommended the dissolution of the so-called UN command in Korea. It was set up illegally in 1950 to command the interventionists' forces during the aggression against the DPRK and continued to exist despite the armistice At the same time, the resolution recommended the withdrawal from South Korea of all foreign troops stationed there under the cover of the UN flag. At the same time, this decision pointed out the need to replace the armistice agreement with a peace agreement. Finally, the resolution contained an appeal for practical measures to prevent armed conflicts and eliminate military confrontation on the Korean peninsula. There is no doubt that the implementation of such a positive solution would permit the normalization of the situation in Korea and would allow progress to be made in the reunification of the country by the effort of the Korean people themselves.

However, judging by everything, such a development of events is not at all to the liking of Washington. The United States is not reducing -- on the contrary, it is intensifying -- its efforts to turn Korea into a frontline zone, an advanced strongpoint, a testing ground for confrontation by force. The Reagan administration is showing particular zeal here. Its aggressive intrigues in the Asian-Pacific region have lead to a sharp exacerbation of tension on the Korean peninsula. Taking account of the extreme danger of the situation that has arisen, a few days ago, Pyongyang put forward new proposals for a peaceful settlement. They evisage holding trilateral talks with the participation of the DPRK, the United States and South Korea. These talks would center on the question of replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and the withdrawal of U.S. troops. The DPRK feels that the only way to achieve peace on the peninsula and the peaceful unification of the country is constructive dialogue between north and south.

[Anikin] Thank you, Boris Vasiliyevich.

STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE CONCLUDES ACTIVITIES

Finland Gives Last Speech

LD210315 Moscow TASS in English 1805 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Stockholm January 20 TASS -- The Helsinki accords on promoting an improvement of relations between states and strengthening the process of detente remain fully relevant, it was stated today by Paavo Vayrynen, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Finland. Finland will actively promote the success of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe, the minister stressed.

The conference, Paavo Vayrynen stressed, is called upon to discuss and adopt a complex of mutually supplementing measures to strengthen trust and security and directed at lessening the risk of military confrontation in Europe. These measures will encompass the whole of Europe and also the adjoining air and sea space. The aim of these measures is to increase trust and to strengthen security in Europe.

This work requires the thorough taking into account of basic security interests and this concerns all participating states. Noting the complexity of the international situation Paavo Vayrynen stated: "The increasing arms race creates a threat to the security of all. To strive for security by way of increasing armaments means to create a still greater threat to security."

The Finnish minister noted with satisfaction that "valuable and substantial results" have been achieved within the all-European process started on the basis of the Helsinki Final Act. Finland is "sincerely interested in a continuation of this (all-European) process". And it is convinced that all the 35 participating states will be able through joint efforts to strengthen their security and expand cooperation for the good of all and to the detriment of no one".

Noting that there are no nuclear arms in the norther of Europe the minister stressed the importance of formalising this situation, hopefully in a future agreement.

The Stockholm conference, as a continuation of the all-European process, can and must make its contribution to improving the overall conditions for conducting talks on arms control and disarmament, Paavo Vayrynen said. His was the last speech to be made by a foreign minister of participating states at the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe.

Gromyko Met by Vorotnikov

LD2C1148 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR minister of foreign affairs, returned to Moscow from Stockholm today. He had been participating in the opening of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe. At the airport in Moscow, Comrade Gromyko was met by Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

MEDIA VIEWS POSITIONS, RESULTS AT STOCKHOLM

'Diametrically Opposed'

PM2C1152 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 20 Jan 84 p 3

[Dispatch by "our correspondent" Ye. Kryukov: "Stockholm's Two Poles"]

[Text] Stockholm -- Fate has willed that the Soviet and U.S. delegations be at opposite ends of the plenary sessions hall at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe. This is explained by the peculiarities of the French alphabet, which was used to draw up the list of countries taking part in the conference, and also by the hall's shape, But, of course, we must look elsewhere for the reason what the Soviet and U.S. delegations are acting from diametrically opposed positions in Stockholm. It lies in the fundamentally different approach of the two countries' governments to the main problem of the present day -- the problem of war and peace.

From the rostrum of the Stockholm conference the head of the Soviet delegation, A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, firmly stated that "our country gives priority in its foreign policy to the prevention of war and above all nuclear war." Our policy's general course toward preventing nuclear war accords with the aspirations of the European peoples and the people of the whole world, who are demanding that reliable steps be taken to avert the nuclear threat from mankind. Our country, setting an example of good will, has already unilaterally undertaken to renounce the first use of nuclear weapons. This undertaking fully accords with the tasks of creating and building confidence between states.

You may ask how the Soviet Union should view the stance of the other nuclear powers which have so far undertaken no such steps. How can we treat with confidence the policy of those countries whose military doctrines provide for the possibility of making first use of nuclear weapons?

Under the present conditions of the very serious complication of the international situation, when turbid streams of militarism, hostility, and military hysteria are crossing the ocean to West Europe along with the cruise and Pershing II missiles, the proposal put forward in January 1983 by the Warsaw Pact countries for concluding a treaty on the mutual renunciation of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace is becoming increasingly urgent. Speaking in Stockholm, the head of the Soviet delegation stressed that a mutual commitment by states to renounce the first use of nuclear and conventional weapons against each other, in other words not to use force, could be a very important confidence-building measure.

Well, what are we hearing from the opposite end of the hall? It would be futile to seek signs of concern in the U.S. Administration concerning the threat of nuclear war which looms over the world. In his speech at the conference U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz tried to claim that the United States, as a UN member and a country which has signed the Helsinki Final Act, is already committed to not using force against other states. But how can we believe these commitments when the boots of U.S. soldiers are trampling Lebanese soil and a piratical act of terrorism has been perpetrated against Grenada? To distract the attention of the conference delegates and the world public from the topical problems which cry out, as they say, to be put on the agenda of international relations, G. Shultz stated that within the next few weeks the United States and its allies will put forward a series of specific proposals on confidence- and security-building measures at the conference. However, it is already becoming clear that these proposals will mainly be built around obtaining additional figures in some types of military activity. Well, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are not against exchanging information, but the main aim is to limit the arms race.

To all appearances the U.S. delegation has not brought much with it to Stockholm. On the other hand, it has found room for statements like those made during the cold war period. Thus, G. Shultz literally left seasoned journalists speechless when he said that "the United States does not recognize the legitimacy of the artificially imposed division of Europe."

The start of the Stockholm conference's work shows that the supporters of detente have strong, reliable positions. But all its participants must be equally interested in the conference's success.

World Reacts to Gromyko Speech

PM201434 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS roundup dated 19 January: "Principled, Peace-loving Stand"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet Union's stand at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe is at the center of the attention of the international public and the press.

Providing extensive accounts of the speech of A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, at the Stockholm forum, the mass news organs of various countries emphasize that the Soviet Union has once again demonstrated its unbending will for peace and to curb the arms race, and has most convincingly confirmed that it is a committed champion of resolving urgent international problems at the negotiating table. The Soviet Union is convinced that the peoples' will for peace and cooperation must be enshrined in weighty accords by the conference participants.

The Soviet Union, THE WASHINGTON POST states, emphasized that the United States, by embarking on the installation of new U.S. missiles in West Europe, has made the talks on this question pointless. At the same time Moscow points out that the dangerous slide toward the abyss can be halted if the states participating in the Stockholm forum display a responsible approach. The Soviet Union indicted the Reagan administration on a wide range of questions, holding it responsible both for the failure of the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe and for exacerbating the situation in many dangerously explosive regions of the planet. Moscow emphasizes that what is needed in politics today is actions, not the verbal exercises to which Washington resorts particularly frequently.

The Soviet Union, America's UPI news agency reports, accuses the Reagan administration of elaborating wild plans for waging nuclear war and of fueling militarism, enmity, and war hysteria in Europe. The USSR, America's ABC TV reports, resolutely rejected assertions that the deployment of new U.S. missiles in West Europe has "strengthened security" on the continent.

London's THE TIMES states Moscow appealed to all the countries participating in the Stockholm forum to end the fueling of tension in international relations, to pursue a policy of peace, and to strengthen confidence. The Soviet Union, another British newspaper -- FINANCIAL TIMES -- points out, abruptly accused the United States of desiring to secure military superiority, fanning militarist hysteria, and drawing up wild scenarios for nuclear war. Pointing out that the Soviet Union takes a "tough stand" on the present U.S. political course, REUTERS states that the Soviet foreign minister's speech made a great impression on NATO officials.

The Soviet Union, West Germany's GENERAL-ANZEIGER writes, emphasizes that the deployment of new U.S. missiles in West Europe has led to a worsening of the international situation and accuses the Reagan administration of pursuing an aggressive foreign policy, which represents the chief threat to peace. At the same time the Soviet Union urges western states to return to the track of the policy of detente. The Warsaw Pact countries are ready to promote the successful work of the Stockholm conference.

The broad package of proposals advanced by the Soviet Union at the Stockholm conference is a vivid demonstration of the USSR's desire to remove the threat of war, strengthen confidence, and reduce the intensity of international tension, West Berlin's DIE WAHRHEIT writes.

The Soviet Union, Japan's MAINICHI points out, sharply criticized the United States for pursuing a "position of strength" policy and unprecedentedly escalating war preparations. This, Moscow points out, is a policy of war. For its part, the Soviet Union takes a responsible and solid approach to the obligations it has adopted, fulfills them honestly, and advocates a shift away from the policy of confrontation toward the policy of detente.

The Soviet Union declared that the U.S. Administration was to blame for wrecking the Soviet-American dialogue in the sphere of limiting nuclear arms in Europe, THE TIMES OF INDIA points out.

The United States and NATO make it their aim to secure military superiority over the Warsaw Pact countries by means of a tremendous buildup of their nuclear arms. Of course, people who have adopted a policy of war are not interested in reaching agreements on arms limitation. As for the Soviet country, it -- and the Soviet stand in Stockholm confirms this once again -- is a resolute opponent of the arms race.

Soviet, CDE Stance Assessed

PM201402 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by special correspondents N. Kostikov and V. Mikhaylov under the rubric "Disarmament Is the Command of the Times": "Stockholm: Consonant With the People's Will"]

[Text] Stockholm, 19 Jan -- Today it is possible to picture more fully and clearly the scale of the impact of the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and the principled Soviet stand expressed in the speech of A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, here in Stockholm, at the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe. The strength of the Soviet stance at the conference -- and this is pointed out in many commentaries -- lies in the combination of, on the one hand, the unadorned truth about grim reality and about the dangers to which the world is exposed as a result of the U.S. Administration's adventurist policy and, on the other, profound conviction as to the possibility of halting the slide toward the abyss and concreteness and breadth of the measures suggested for examination at the conference to reduce the threat of war and strengthen confidence and security.

The truth about the causes of the sharp turn for the worse in international affairs and the increased threat of war stood out in particularly great contrast against the background of the attempts from across the ocean on the eve of the conference and on the very first day of its work on the part of the head of the American delegation to distract its participants with mellifluous speeches from the grave negative consequences of the policy of the present U.S. Administration, which thinks and acts in terms of force and war. In the corridors here it has been possible to hear talk of the failure of Washington's plan to blunt the European peoples' vigilance and lull them with false promises of peace under the protection of Pershing and cruise missiles. This does not mean that the conference platform is not being used to provide propaganda cover for the alarming nuclear "arms upgrading." But the ranks of its direct advocates are not so united, and the conviction of their speeches has diminished sharply.

On the contrary, this is the third day that the persistent idea of the fallaciousness of the U.S. Administration's attempts to justify its arms buildup policy by maintaining that it "makes peace more secure" has been heard latently or openly in the overwhelming majority of speeches. When, for example, Swedish Prime Minister O. Palme was asked whether the U.S. actions in the arms sphere raise the level of international security, he replied with a categorical "no." The more weapons, he said, the greater the danger of military confrontation.

Concern at the arms race was heard in the speeches of the foreign ministers not only of the socialist states but also of the group of countries called here "N" plus "N" -- that is, neutral and nonaligned. The representatives of a number of NATO countries also spoke from the conference platform about the need to end the crazy race and return to detente.

Even now that we have gathered here, Danish Foreign Minister U. Ellemann-Jensen pointed out in his speech, the arms race is continuing, and continuing, apparently, to no less a degree. This in no way increases security but leads to growing instability, forming a vicious circle in the precisest meaning of the expression. It is urgently necessary to halt and change this development of events. This demand can be successfully fulfilled if the international community finds itself able to take significant political measures and achieve general understanding of the fact that security is not enhanced by accumulating a still greater quantity of weapons and, to put it simply, that disarmament is essential!

The conference participants were greatly impressed by the persistence and consistency with which the Soviet Union has put forward here, too, a wide spectrum of large-scale measures which could remove the primary cause of international tension and growing mistrust -- namely, halt the arms race. A big response was elicited by the Soviet proposals on concluding a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace, whose core would be the mutual renunciation of the first use of both nuclear and conventional weapons. The implementation of even one of these proposals would signify tremendous progress.

At the conference here in the Swedish capital, as well as at the United Nations, when condemning nuclear war or voting on proposals to freeze nuclear arms and prevent the militarization of space, a tendency has been apparent for the international community to reject the U.S. Administration's aggressive foreign policy. At the same time, during these 3 days of the conference's work it has been possible to feel repeatedly how consonant the socialist states' peace initiatives are with the European's thoughts and their desire to continue the path begun in Helsinki.

DISARMAMENT, DEVELOPMENT MEETING HELD IN ROME

LD210322 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Rome January 20 TASS -- A joint meeting of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues and the Commission on International Development opened here today. Taking part in its work are prominent politicians and public figures from 25 countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, North and Latin America, a representative of the United Nations, observers from the Vatican.

Addressing the meeting, Chairman of the Commission on International Development Willy Brandt said that the international situation has exacerbated sharply in the past three and a half years. We witness a new stage of the arms race, he said. Morever, the economic crisis has aggravated sharply. In this situation we must spend funds on combatting famine in the world and not on military requirements, Willy Brandt stressed.

The report prepared by our commission concentrates the attention on finding the ways of preventing wars, said Chairman of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues Olof Palme. New anti-war movement emerged in many countries now. Thousands of people express their concern over the exisitng international situation. We link our hopes with the relaxation of international tension, Olof Palme said.

Further Details

LD221931 Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Rome January 22 TASS -- TASS correspondents Ye. Babenko and A. Golyayev report.

Participants in a joint session of the independent commission on disarmament and security and the commission on issues of international development, that ended here today, expressed their grave concern over the present-day international situation. The session drew prominent state, political and public figures from 25 countries of Europe, Asia, Africa and America, a representative of the United Nations and observers from the Vatican. Member of the CPSU Central Committee, Academician Georgy Arbatov took part in the session from the Soviet side.

The session's final document shows that the work of the commissions was held in a businesslike, constructive spirit and was characterized by a realistic approach to problems of security and economic development. It stresses that the questions of the arms race and security are the chief issues of our time. A new spiral of the nuclear arms race is being observed in Europe, new types of weapons are being developed at an ever faster pace, and the threat of nuclear conflict has enhanced. It is perfectly obvious that such developments may result in the annihilation of mankind. Nevertheless, there still exists an illusion about a "limited" nuclear war and the possibility to win it, the document says.

The commissions' members pointed to close inter-relationship between the problems of security and economic development. The deterioration of international economic relations has resulted in higher tension, the document points out. Security cannot be ensured by building up one's military potential, it should be based on the recognition of mutual interests and respect for the existing systems.

The session's participants stressed the need to work for an agreement preventing the arms race from spreading into outer space and on disarmament in the field of chemical weapons and the prohibition of their testing.

Chairman of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Olof Palme, speaking at a press conference here, stressed that the commission denounces the United States' plans to base weapons in outer space. Other participants in the press conference pointed out that even a slight reduction in military spending will make it possible to channel huge sums for resolving complicated social and economic problems facing mankind.

EMERGENCY SESSION OF WPC PRESIDIUM OPENS 22 JAN

LD221323 Moscow TASS in English 1241 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] West Berlin January 22 TASS -- The Presidium of the World Peace Council opened an emergency session here today. The meeting is being attended by some 250 representatives of 80 states of all continents, including prominent politicians, public figures, members of youth, women's and religious organizations, eminent scientists, writers, and physicians.

The session was called in connection with the extremely tense international situation caused primarily by the started deployment of American first-strike nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries. World Peace Council President Romesh Chandra emphasized that the danger of nuclear annihilation had never been so great before. He urged the participants in the session to work out specific measures that would help to reduce the risk of outbreak of nuclear war and to strengthen world peace.

ROGERS ORDER TO FIRE ON DEMONSTRATORS ASSAILED

LD190712 Moscow TASS in English 0658 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA comments on the order issued by Pentagon General Rogers, under whose command are the allied armed forces of NATO in Europe, to the guardsmen of the Mutlangen base in West Germany where the first "Pershing-2" missiles have already been made operational, "to open aimed fire on demonstrators".

"The Pentagon," PRAVDA writes, "already has experience in this respect. Last summer a special unit of U.S. troops in the FRG atrociously beat the participants in the symbolic blockade of the base in Ramstein. This time, a step further is made -- by snatching submachine-guns, which the general's order urges to do."

"But one should ponder over the fact," the newspaper observes, "what a reprisal against the participants in the anti-war movement means today. The fact that in the FRG the anti-nuclear protesters express the will of 75 per cent of the population should not be left out of reckoning. Almost as impressive are the data of opinion polls on the attitude to the deployment of new U.S. missiles in other NATO states of Europe as well."

"Of course," the commentary goes on, "the NATO military, not to mention the governments of countries on whose soil contrary to the will of their own peoples it was decided to deploy U.S. first-strike nuclear systems, would not want to bring matters to direct reprisals against the praticipants in the mass movement of protest. The propagandist services, both overseas and at home, make a good deal of effort to blow up the anti-war, anti-missile movement from the inside or at least to compromise it."

"The forces of reaction and militarism long before Roger's orders opened aimed fire at peace campaigners," PRAVDA writes in conclusion. "However, those forces will not attain their goal. They will be wrathfully rebuffed by the peoples. Those who undermine the foundations of peace and who push mankind to the abyss of a nuclear catastrophe will come under a return fire: Millions of people will say their wrathful 'No' to the adventuristic plans."

REAGAN SPEECH 'APOLOGY FOR CULT FOR FORCE'

PM211855 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 84 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Melor Sturua article: "Regarding the U.S. President's Speech"]

[Text] During these January days the international public's attention is riveted on the "Venice of the north" -- Stockholm -- where the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe is in session. The very title of this lofty forum explains why people all over the world, and not just Europeans, are following the course of its work so closely and -- of course -- are wishing it success. The Soviet Union's position at the conference was set out with exhaustive clarity in Comrade A.A. Gromyko's speech. It is a principled and at the same time entirely practical program for strengthening peace and security in Europe and throughout the world, a program for curbing the nuclear arms race and for defending and further developing detente.

Now let us see what kind of baggage the U.S. delegation brought to Stockholm. Its contents are shown as though by an x-ray, so to speak, by President Ronald Reagan's parting speech. I refer to the television speech he delivered from the White House 16 January. Well in advance, long before it was delivered, this speech, which was largely devoted to Soviet-American relations, had been widely publicized by Washington propaganda as "epochal," "fundamental," and a "philosophical overview." At the same time it was warned that the President's speech would contain "no new ideas or constructive proposals."

Now the speech has been delivered. As far as new ideas and constructive proposals are concerned, the publicity proved to be entirely truthful. They are indeed not to be found in Reagan's speech. And its "epochal" and "fundamental" nature turned out to be a lengthy repetition of the present Washington administration's well-known position -- the course of achieving military superiority and, by means of that superiority, world hegemonism.

Of course, as was only to be expected, these aspirations of the U.S. rulers were thickly covered with the decorative molding of "peace-loving" rhetoric. The choice of time and the nature of the audience certainly had an influence on this. The speech was timed to coincide with the start of the Stockholm conference (for the foreign audience) and the start of the first election battles (for the domestic audience). Before these audiences Reagan played the role of a wise statesman deeply concerned about the fate of world peace. It was extremely necessary for him to do this in order, first, to take the heat out of the antiwar movement in West Europe and, second, to attempt to dispel the growing anxiety in the United States itself at the White House's adventurist course.

But typically, although the world "peace" comes up in literally every phrase of the President's speech and although solemn assurances of commitment to the cause of peace run through the speech like an insistent and even importunate refrain, the inspiration [pafos] of Reagan's eloquence is very different, indeed opposite. It is essentially an apology for the cult of force in international relations along with the policy of diktat and of an unlimited arms race that follows logically from that.

A considerable part of Reagan's speech is taken up with hypocritical laments about the fact that until his arrival to power, the United States "neglected its defenses" in the face of a Soviet Union that was armed to the teeth.

"History teaches that wars begin when governments believe the price of aggression is cheap," Reagan said. You have to admit that Washington's aggression against Grenada provides a rather eloquent illustration of that proposition. On a more global scale, albeit unrealizable, desire to disrupt the military parity that now exists between the United States and the Soviet Union and to make the United States the dominant power in the world also leads in this direction.

Boasting of the successes achieved along the road of the arms race during his tenure in the White House, Reagan asserts that "we are safer now." But is this really the case In reality world peace has become still more fragile and the threat of war has increased and has moved closer to the borders of a whole series of continents, above all the European Continent. But even this is not enough for Reagan. He calls for the further buildup of means of "deterrence." What next, gentlemen?

Reagan asserts that Washington needs all this in order to conduct a "serious and constructive dialogue" with the Soviet Union. Dialogue or diktat? As the experience of the Geneva talks -- both the START talks and those on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe -- and also the course of the Vienna talks show, Washington would like to turn dialogue into diktat and would like to use it to attain military superiority.

From a propaganda viewpoint, Reagan's speech is based on an extremely simple method -- laying the blame on someone else. The President's call to "find ways to reduce the vast stockpiles of armaments in the world" sounds hypocritical. It is said by the head of an administrstion that has set itself the aim of increasing the stockpile of U.S. nuclear warheads to 29,000 by 1990, with the existing warheads being replaced by new, more sophisticated ones! In his attempt to prove the unprovable, Reagan even contradicts himself and paints a picture of a "decline in America's nuclear arsenals." What then has become of your proclaimed "restoration of U.S. military power"?

Reagan mentions "broad cooperation and mutual understanding" as one of the tasks aimed at creating a better working relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States. In principle it is hard to make any objection to this, just as it is to the President's remark that "peaceful trade helps." But what happens in reality? Who breaks off broad cooperation, including in the trade and economic sphere? I think everyone is well aware of the answers to those questions.

A love of all kinds of triads is a kind of disease in contemporary Washington. Reagan's latest speech could not manage without a triad either. He stated that in order to achieve peace three principles are necessary: realism, strength, and dialogue. But the whole point is that the President views realism and dialogue only through the prism of strength. It is not for nothing that he himself says that "strength and dialogue go hand-in-hand." From the example of Geneva we were able to see for ourselves once again what this leads to. It was precisely the unrealistic desire to secure one-sided advantages and to conduct dialogue from a position of strength that led to the breakdown of the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe and to the deadlock at the START talks.

"Living in our nuclear age makes it imperative that we talk," Reagan exclaims bombastically. Yes, it does. But it makes it imperative that we talk not the language of diktat, not from a position of strength, but the language of reason, the language of equality and equal security; not the language of Pershing and cruise missiles, not the language of the "New Jersey's" 16-inch guns, but the language of diplomacy. Again, not the language of gunboats and nuclear bombs. We do not talk [rasgovor nam nesvoystven] from the positions proclaimed by Washington. We reject such talk.

"Our challenge is peaceful. It will bring out the best in us," Reagan declared in his television speech. This too is demagoguery. The challenge that U.S. imperialism is throwing down to mankind is not peaceful but military. It is bringing out all the worst features and most negative qualities in the Washington rulers. This is why the Soviet Union, the enitre socialist community, and all the world's peace-loving forces are increasing their vigilance and their struggle for peace a hundredfold in order to ensure that the Washington "triads" -- not the propaganda ones but the real ones -- are not set in motion.

One final point. In the concluding passage of his speech President Reagan waxed lyrical. He painted a pathetically sentimental picture of a meeting "in a waiting room or in a shelter from the rain" between the Soviets Ivan and Anya and the Americans Jim and Sally. By talking about this and that, the President said, "they would have proven that people don't want war. People want to raise their children in a world without fear and without war... Their common interests cross all borders." You are right, Mr President. The Soviets Ivan and Anya, like the Americans Jim and Sally, don't want war. (Unless, of course, the latter are the codename of concerns in the military-industrial compex.) They want to raise children in a peaceful situation, and in this desire their common interests do indeed cross all borders. This is why they are today coming out for peace and against the nuclear arms race, coming out for a genuine improvement in Soviet-American relations, and coming out, in particular, for the freeze on nuclear arsenals that is so hateful to the White House, in short, coming out for everything that the course pursued by the Washington administration, which thinks in terms of war, is placing in lethal jeopardy.

U.S. AIR-LAND BATTLE DOCTRINE EXAMINED

PM191301 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 2, 15 Jan 84 p 5

[Nikolay Portugalov article: "The Battle in Europe: The Second Stage"]

[Text] The USA and its NATO partners, confident that the Pershing II and cruise missiles have been accepted in Europe, are now shifting the accent on to the development of modernized types of conventional weapons -- much more powerful and accurate than the old ones. This is a first-strike battlefiled tool against the Warsaw Treaty Organization (WTO) troops and their immediate rear.

This latest act has been elaborated to the minutest detail -- from the military doctrine down to the plan for the propaganda campaign.

One more political scandal erupted late last summer in Bonn -- the Social-Democratic opposition demanded that the government produce explanations for the preface to Air-Land Battle-2000, a service manual published by the Pentagon and signed by General Meyer, Chief of Staff of the US Army, and General Glanz, General Inspector of the Bundeswehr land forces. Both of them declared that they reached accord on the "operational and tactical aspects" included in the new US Army Regulations and expounded in the above manual, henceforth being the basis for US-West German military cooperation within the NATO framework.

Certain curious details surfaced. As it turned out General Glanz signed this preface, which had the force of a document, back in 1982, without informing Apal, the then defence minister, having only had the permission of his immediate superior officer, the Bundeswehr general inspector.

Nothing was known about this in Bonn's political circles for a long time. The Pentagon top brass informed Woerner, the new defence minister, about this only after the Christian Democrats came to power. He, however, didn't even try to disown his generals. In this way the "air-land battle" doctrine became recognized as the basis of the West German strategy and the FRG became established in new positions.

The essence of this new offensive doctrine is to build up in the "NATO central section", e.e., primarily in West Germany, a first-strike capability to lash out at the immediate rear of the WTO troops, with combined use of tactical nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, and, mainly, the latest weapon systems -- electronic and laser reconnaissance-assault complexes which can hit the target (or to be more accurate, entire troop units) with the first shot.

Even some conservative West German papers didn't hide their concern over the fact that the "NATO defence strategy" -- the so-called flexible response strategy -- was, in fact, replaced by a purely offensive concept. And the liberal and Social-Democratic press wrote outright that the new US doctrine, which practically coincides with the well-known "Rogers' plan", was introduced in West Germany without even the sanction of supreme NATO organs, and that, as a result the Bundeswehr could be used as a tool of aggressive war which would begin again from German soil.

It was pointed out that in this way the USA intended not only to build up in West Germany the capability for a first strategic ("decapitating", according to US terminology) strike on the USSR with its new medium-range nuclear missiles but also to create there a tool for delivering a first strike on the WTO troops in the battlefield.

Experts and commentators alike posed the quite legitimate question is it possible that a situation would arise in which the Bundeswehr, in case of a conflict in Europe, would adhere to a defensive strategy, and the US 7th Army, the mainstay of the NATO forces in Europe and stationed in West Germany, would adhere to an offensive strategy -- all in keeping with the new US Army Field Manual?

The defence ministry in Bonn, now supervised by the Christian Democrats, started issuing "disapprovals" which sounded like semi-affirmations. The West German journalists went to the "source" -- General Rogers himself -- knowing full well that he wouldn't be able to resist the lure of giving an extra interview. The CO of the US European Command said that the "air-land battle" doctrine, which is, in his opinion, of global significance, was allegedly not suitable for the European theatre. The general's attention was drawn to the fact that his own plan for the buildup of the latest non-nuclear weapon systems in the forward-based positions of NATO armies for the delivery of combined offensive strikes against the second, and even third, echelons of WTO countries' troops in their territories was surprisingly similar to the provisions in the new US Army Field Manual. But Rogers declared that this was quite a different thing. He said he was solely concerned with "raising the nuclear threshold in Europe" and because of that wanted to saturate the forward-based defence positions with the most effective conventional weapon systems. And the best defence is an immediate offensive with a transfer of hostilities to the enemy's territory. And that's that!

Rogers' West German opponents failed to find any essential difference between his plan and the "air-land battle" doctrine. Moreover, it was hard to beieve the general when he said that he was concerned with raising the nuclear threshold in Europe precisely at a time when the first Pershing-2 missiles, which threaten to turn any conflict into a nuclear clash at the very outset, were due to arrive in West Germany. However, the dust raised at the time settled back down. Last summer the West German public in general and mainly those from the mighty antiwar movement focussed their attention on problems connected with the forthcoming deployment of new US missiles in the country.

Several months went by. The top brass in the Pentagon and the NATO HQ learned some lessons from what had happened. It turned out to be not all that simple to "legalize" the new aggressive US Doctrine in NATO. The governments of the European NATO countries treated it with suspicion and were reluctant to raise their military spending considerably, a must for placing orders for superprecision and superpowerful non-nuclear weapon systems. And, which is the main thing, this doctrine was increasingly drawing the attention of the West Europeans, above all, the West German antiwar movement.

At the December NATO session, the military leadership of the alliance didn't dare get rid for good of the "defence camouflage" hiding its strategy. The communique of the NATO military planning committee declared that the official "flexible response strategy" remained in force. Nevertheless, the very next sentence says that the strengthening of the alliance's non-nuclear component of forces "is an especially urgent task". Further on, the communique speaks of the already adopted programme for the buildup of NATO's conventional forces for the next five years and that a "greater accent" will be placed on making use of the potential capabilities of already developed new military hardware and the systems now being developed for tangible improvements in the alliance's non-nuclear defence system, on the basis of the two-way street principle. This means that Washington, wishing to gild the bitter pill for its allies, on whom it is placing the burden of additional military spending, agrees to draw West European military-industrial complexes into building up the latest conventional weaponry, envisaged in its new offensive doctrine.

The West European military industrial tycoons are already anticipating the fat orders for weapons, whose production the US Big Brother seems to have decided to allow them to proceed with for the first time in NATO history. West Germany is taking the lead, with its military-industrial complex, becoming the first centre in Western Europe to make the latest non-nuclear weapons.

Recently a US-West German agreement was signed on deploying in West Germany, within the NATO framework, a joint anti-aircraft defence system equipped with 2,600 US surface-to-air Patriot missiles with a conventional warhead and about 1,000 Franco-West German Roland missiles. The cost is some three billion dollars. The Americans, with the participation of West German industry, are now working on developing, on the basis of the Patriot missile, the T-16 Assault Breaker complex intended for combatting large tank formations within the enemy's second echelon". On top of that, in the next few years the USA intends to deploy "within the NATO European sphere" thousands of cruise missiles with conventional warheads. The West German military-industrial concerns will be taking part in this programme, too. By the way, no means of detection are capable of determining whether a cruise missile has a conventional or a nuclear warhead and, therefore, any sort of effective control over this part of the NATO capability is excluded from the very beginning.

Now, let's sum up the above.

At present, when the deployment of the new US missiles in Western Europe has already started, the USA and NATO are focussing their main attention on building up a tool for waging a "limited war" in Europe - building up a first-strike capability in the European theatre, based on the latest high-precision and high-powered types of non-nuclear weapons. This is a familiar game with the characters precast in their roles: Gneeral Rogers continues to indulge in verbiage on "raising the nuclear threshold at the cost of strengthening conventional defences", and appeals to the Europeans to sacrifice for this lofty goal at least "one meal a week".

He is echoed by Altenburg, the Bundeswehr general inspector, who declares that the "incapacitation of the enemy's second echelon in his rear with conventional arms" is the alliance's important task. The conservative press in the European NATO countries has shifted the accent from the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles to verbiage on the USSR's "growing superiority" in conventional weapons, which, of course, must be "balanced" as soon as possible. Appeals are voiced in NATO capitals - and most loudly in Bonn - for the USSR "to express preparedness for talks on the reduction of this superiority" which, allegedly, would bring about a new "atmosphere of confidence".

The USA and NATO are already laying down the foundation for the implementation of the aggressive "air-land battle" doctrine. All this creates a sort of deja vu feeling.

Wasn't it the same with the deployment of new US medium-range missiles in Europe? At first (in the first half of the 70s) fundamentally new weapons systems had been designed, which, according to the Pentagon, were to secure USA military superiority in Europe. After that, acting behind the closed doors, the NATO military organs, on US initiative and with vigorous participation of West German generals, elaborated a corresponding military concept for the new weapons which was based on the use of these systems as a first-strike capability. The next stage was the NATO political-propaganda campaign, unprecedented in scope, to hammer home into the Europeans' minds that the USSR supposedly had a decisive advantage and even a sham "monopoly" precisely in this class of weapons. Then came the notorious NATO "double-track decision" and the prolonged talks in Geneva, doomed to failure, which the Americans took part in with the sole purpose of calming down the West European public while they completed R and D finishing touches on their missiles. It all ended in the last step - the deployment of these missiles.

It looks like the USA and NATO expect to apply the same tactics in building a first-strike capability against the immediate rear of the WTO armies. However, one can suppose that this will be much more difficult to accomplish. The cat has slipped out of the bag much earlier in this case, and the West European antiwar movement has heightened its vigilance. There are more and more signs that the struggle against the aggressive "air-land battle" doctrine, which the Americans wish to make the official NATO strategy, and against the fatal consequences of this for Western Europe, is already gathering strength.

EURONET CALLED U.S. 'PSYCHOLOGICAL SABOTAGE'

LD220912 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0910 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Washington, 21 Jan (TASS) -- TASS correspondent A. Lyutyy reports:

The Reagan administration intends to increase allocations for its new "offspring" in the sphere of psychological sabotage -- the television network "Euronet" -- by $5 million next year. This was reported by THE WASHINGTON POST.

This system, which has already been brought into operation, and whose initiator was the not-unknown anti-Soviet director of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA), is one of 44 projects in the framework of the notorious "program of democracy and public diplomacy," aimed at blatant intervention by Washington into the affairs of other sovereign states, the fanning up of "psychological warfare" against socialist countries and the national liberation movements.

Using modern space communications satellites, USIA has set itself the aim of pouring heaps of slander about the policy of the USSR and lies about some supposed "love of peace" on the part of the Reagan administration, on the West European public through television channels.

It is far from accidental that the Washington specialists in the field of ideological sabotage chose above all those countries of Western Europe which the United States is now "endowing" with lethal first-strike nuclear weapons, as the targets of this "brain-washing." It is the aim of instilling into the Western Europeans, with the aid of blatant fabrications, the false thought that the "Pershings" and cruise missiles are allegedly aimed at "strengthening security" on the continent, that Weinberger, chief of the Pentagon, Eagleberger, deputy secretary of state, Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and other highly placed ranks of the Washington administration, who have already spoken on the "Euronet" network, have set themselves.

The piratical adventures of U.S. imperialism abroad are served up in the cheap products of "Euronet" as almost a blessing for the peoples of the world. The television network's first program, shown in November, was devoted entirely to justifying the barbaric U.S. aggression against Grenada. Appearing as the main "advocate" for this treacherous act of international brigandage was the permanent U.S. representative at the UN, Kirkpatrick, who is known for her caveman anticommunism.

Washington has now put its programs of ideological sabotage on a global footing. they are also trying to make the new subversive television network a global undertaking. There are plans to extend the range of its coverage beyond the limits of Western Europe. The "made in Washington" programs, originally intended to be shown three times a week, are not to be broadcast daily from the beginning of next year.

"Euronet," as conceived by the organizers of "psychological war" in Washington, is meant, ultimately, to fulfill the functions that are carried out on the air by "Voice of America" -- one of Washington's main mouthpieces for circulating the anti-Soviet forgeries concocted by the CIA and the Pentagon. But even in the administration itself, they are forced to admit that not many television companies in Western Europe are willing to swallow the U.S. propaganda bait and start regaling their viewers with "canards" from Washington's "kitchen." As the U.S. consultative commission on public diplomacy admits in a recent report to President Reagan, the "programme of democracy and public diplomacy," of which "Euronet" forms a part, is arousing the public's suspicion and is "not being understood."

'RACE OF MONEYBAGS' FOR PRESIDENCY VIEWED

PM201503 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 p 3

[Dispatch by TASS correspondent A. Lyutyy under the rubric "Elections American-Style": "Race of the 'Moneybags'"]

[Text] Washington -- former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale came to the large banquet hall of Washington's smart Capitol Hilton hotel to announce his intention to become President. He has grounds for this hope: Among the eight Democratic Party contenders Mondale is now the most popular -- he has 40 percent of the votes of the party's supporters. Mondale began the presidential race a long time ago, but he preferred to announce the start of his election campaign officially only in early in January at the Capitol Hilton, having already acquired a definite stock of "financial security" and advertisements in newspapers and magazines.

Mondale chose domestic policy as the theme of his speech. It is in this sphere that the Democrats are seeking to find the present administration's largest number of vulnerable spots.

As for the White House's foreign policy, here the Democrats do not have to look for them -- they are obvious. Mondale lost no time in mentioning them to his audience at the dinner. Rephrasing a question which Reagan asked frequently in 1980, he said: "Are we living in a more secure world than 3 years ago? No! The majority of Americans, "Mondale continued, "can see what Reagan cannot see. The Near East and Central America are in the grips of war, U.S. - Soviet relations are in a state of crisis, the Geneva talks have been broken off, a dangerous escalation of the arms race in underway to the accompaniment of loose talks about the permissibility of nuclear war, and plans for turning space into a battlefield are undermining our allies' trust in us."

There is much that is contradictory in Mondale's election platform, as in the platforms of the other contenders from the opposition party. But however it may be at the present stage, it is perhaps only Mondale who can vie with the present White House incumbent. Next to Mondale in popularity are another two Democratic Party contenders -- Senator John Glenn and Jesse Jackson, a black civil rights leader. Glenn is preferred by 25 percent of Democratic Party supporters and Jackson by 10 percent.

The 42-year-old black preacher Jackson should not count on the President's seat. There are no miracles in racist America. And Jackson, in conducting his campaign under the slogan of "America's rebirth and moral renewal," is perfectly aware of this. Some people accuse him of splitting the party and indirectly playing into Reagan's hand by, for instance, diverting the votes of the black electorate in the southern states away from Mondale. However, Jackson himself believes that he has made the correct political choice, designed to attract to the polling booths an unprecedented number of representatives of the nation's minorities and to draw more attention to the problems of non-white Americans. As a whole Jackson's platform is distinguished by the greatest implacability toward the present administration's adventurist foreign policy. Jackson recently succeeded in attracting the attention of the entire country. As a result of his visit to Damascus the Syrian authorities released U.S. naval pilot Robert Goodman, whose aircraft had been shot down over positions of the Syrian contingent of the pan-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

Displaying goodwill, the Syrian Government made it clear to Washington that the differences between the two sides should be resolved not on the path of military confrontation but in an atmosphere of constructive talks.

How did the administration react to this? Absolutely traditionally. Jackson and Goodman had not even returned to the United States when a State Department spokesman hastened to announce that U.S. fighters' "reconnaissance flights" over the Syrian troops positions would continue. Nonetheless the results of Jackson's trip to Damascus were a painful blow to the White House incumbent. After all, for U.S. voters the very fact that Robert Goodman had been released meant that while President Reagan had made no efforts to free the pilot, Jackson, abandoning his election concerns, had personally traveled to the Syrian capital and had been successful.

Some people call Senator John Glenn the "boring contender". He is not distingusihed by an impressive gift as an orator or the ability to win over an audience. Glenn has quite a rich experience of political activity. Leaning to the right, conservative, wing of the Democrats, Glenn enjoys considerable support among influential big business circles. But perhaps the main reason for his popularity is his glory as a hero which he won as the first U.S. astronaut. The United States, rent by an economic, social, and moral crisis, is attracted to "powerful personalities" as though they were straws to grab at, in the illusory hope that one fine day one of them will extricate the country from the quagmire of troubles.

Glenn has been portrayed as a fearless, invariably resourceful, and infinitely patriotic superman in the recently released movie "The Right Stuff", recounting the first stages of the U.S. space program. However, there are no supermen in real life. So Glenn is now having to give a prosaic and highly confused account of himself to the electorate. For instance, he is having to explain why he, as a man who has expatiated at length on peace, once opposed the SALT II treaty.

What election campaign in the United States escapes traditional mudslinging by the contenders? The present campaign has been no exception. A duel of words with no regard for the rules of good behavior has now been launched between the two leading democratic contenders.

"Mondale," Glenn charges, "was the navigator on the shipwreck of Carter's policy. And now he is making so many promises that if he is elected the U.S. people will have to sue him for their unrealized hopes."

"Glenn," Mondale counters," is displaying signs of irritability and despair. You remember he supported Reagan's catastrophic tax reform. In addition he is juggling with figures." And so on and so forth. And the White House is laughing -- the more frequently and the more painfully the Democrats hit each other below the belt, the better. Against this background it is easier for the Republicans to concoct totally phone. sugary television movies urging people to vote for Reagan.

It is an axiom of U.S. political lifethat the presidential elections are a contest between "moneybags," and the one who wins is the one who is able to buy the most votes with the aid of advertising and other means used for the mass deception of ordinary people. Of course, the "Reagan-Bush reelection committee" has no financial problems: Donations from the military-industrial complex, big business, and all kinds of right-wing groups are flooding in. Among the Democrats, Mondale and Glenn are doing very well, having collected $9 million and $6 million respectively last year and having just received substantial injections of federal aid as stipulated by legislation.

In brief, this is one more confirmation of the truth that it is not ordinary Americans but His Majesty Capital who elects the U.S. President.

U.S.-USSR FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM SIGNED IN MOSCOW

LD201748 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- The programme of cooperation of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, the "USSR-USA" Society and the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, regional friendship societies in 1984-1986 was signed in Moscow today. [sentence as received]

It is pointed out in the programme that both sides will continue a campaign for normalisation of American-Soviet relations, for the preservation of the policy of detente, disarmanent, peace and security.

The programme was signed by President of the "USSR-USA" Society, President of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences Nikolay Blokhin and Executive Director of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship Alan Thomson.

REAGAN SEEKS 'STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP' WITH PRC

LD222100 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Jan 84

[From "International Panorama"; video talk by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] Reagan's speech on television and radio last Monday was evidently timed for the beginning of the Stockholm conference. The head of the administration, accused of sharply deteriorating U.S.-Soviet relations and dangerously exacerbating international tension, tried to portray himself as a peacemaker and the champion of a constructive dialogue with the USSR.

Reagan once won a television debate with Carter by asking the American people the question: "Is life better for you now than it was 4 years ago?" What would happen if the current President's ooponent in turn asks viewers: "Do you feel more secure now than you were 4 years ago?" Reagan realizes that this question would work against him. This led to a demagogic change of tone and attempts to use the Stockholm forum -- even the very fact of the Shultz-Gromyko meeting in the Swedish capital -- for pre-election speculation.

The proximity of the elections undoubtedly left its mark on Reagan's approach to U.S.-Chinese relations as well, as evidenced during Zhao Ziyang's recent visit to the United States.

As is known, Reagan's arrival in the White House at first caused a slump in relations between the PRC and the United States. The new President, who in his pre-election speech spoke in favor of restoring diplomatic relations with Taiwan, so irritated this painful splinter that Beijing even threatened to recall its ambassador from Washington. But, by the middle of 1983, a halt was made in further cooling of relations. An easing of export restrictions on new U.S. equipment and technology to China played an important part in this. Having suffered a number of foreign policy failures Reagan, by all accounts, decided to gain political capital in the field of U.S.-Chinese relations, i.e. by following the example of his predecessor Carter, whom Reagan himself criticized for doing the very same thing 4 years ago.

Commenting on Zhao Ziyang's trip, foreign observers are noting that participants in the Washington talks tried to play down their political differences, especially over the question of Taiwan, and to push to the forefront the agreement on industrial-technical and scientific-technical cooperation which was signed during the visit. Taking advantage of China's interest in developing these ties with the United States, the Reagan administration is obviously trying to draw it into strategic partnership, which would meet the interests of imperialism. At the same time the United States in no way renounced its hegemonistic approach to China's national interest. Despite verbal curtseys to Beijing Washington is essentially maintaining its relations with Taiwan and continues to step up arms supplies to it.

The same day that Premier Zhao Ziyang was listening to President Reagan's speech of welcome on the White House lawn, Hatfield, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, was saying in Taiwan that military assistance to the Kuomintang will be the same as last year, that is $750-780 million.

While verbally condemning "any sort of hegemonism," the Chinese leadership at the same time spoke of its readiness to establish stable and lasting relations with the present U.S. Administration, whose aggressive actions in Central America and the Middle East embody the extreme forms of hegemonism.

MPR'S TSEDENBAL ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR VACATION

LD211323 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS--Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic, has today arrived for a vacation in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

U.S. 'PRESSURE' SPURS JAPAN FUNDING FOR BASES

LD230735 Moscow TASS in English 0705 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Tokyo January 23 TASS -- Under the pressure of the Ronald Reagan administration, the Government of Japan, which blindly follows in the wake of U.S. global strategy, continuously increases military appropriations for the maintenance of U.S. Armed Forces stationed here. According to a draft state budget for the 1984 financial year endorsed by the Japanese Ministry of Finance, the appropriations will grow by another eight per cent as compared with last year. The Japanese authorities intend to allocate funds for the modernisation of the U.S. Misawa Air Force Base (Aomori Prefecture) so as to prepare it to receive soon the newest U.S. F-16 fighter bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons. The newspaper AKAHATA writes today that Japan's spending for the maintenance of U.S. troops has increased ten-fold in the past seven years.

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN EXTENDED 2 YEARS

OW211914 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] At the Japanese Foreign Ministry today the Soviet Union and Japan exchanged notes on Soviet-Japanese cultural arrangements, extending for 2 years the Soviet-Japanese agreement of 27 January 1972. Signing the notes regulating cultural exchanges between the two countries were Soviet Ambassador to Japan Pavlov, for the Soviet Union, and Foreign Minister Abe for the Japanese side.

Under the agreement the two countries conduct not only broad cultural exchanges but also interchanges of scholars and researchers and exchanges of official publications, thus promulgating information material on both sides.

Russian and Soviet arts and literary works enjoy popularity in Japan, and this fact was proved anew by the great success the Russian and Soviet art festival had in Japan last autumn. The extension of the cultural agreement will promote further development of the cultural exchanges between the Soviet Union and Japan.

S. KOREA OPPOSITION LEADER ASKS CONSTITUTION END

LD212105 Moscow TASS in English 1926 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Tokyo January 21 TASS -- Yu Chi-song, the leader of the biggest opposition Democratic Korea Party (DKP), has demanded that the so-called "constitution" of South Korea be immediately abrogated.

According to reports from Seoul, at a press conference there he strongly criticised the policy of self-styled "president" of South Korea, dictator Chon Tu-hwan, who intends to extend his rule for an indefinite time by means of the anti-people "consitution" of 1980. The DKP leader underlined the need for the holding of free parliamentary elections in South Korea, with representatives of all political parties participating. Immediate and complete abrogation of the special law which forbids more than 200 prominent opposition figures of the country to participate in political activity would serve the establishment of democracy and attainment of social stability.

The DKP leader pointed out that the latest arrests of intellectuals, the Seoul regime's punitive actions against students, and representatives of religious and public organizations lead only to a further heightening of tension in South Korea, and to mounting discontent among the public at large over the policy of the ruling regime.

Chon Tu-hwan's anti-people policy, which is aimed at strengthening in every way the militarist alliance with Washington, and which tramples elementary civil rights and political freedoms of the population, gives rise to resolute protests in various sections of the South Korean public, Yu Chi-song emphasized.

SRV'S NHAN DAN HITS 'HEGEMONIST' PRC POLICY

PM201604 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Article in NHAN DAN"]

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Jan -- The Chinese side, an editorial article in the newspaper NHAN DAN reads, has rejected the SRV's proposal to cease hostilities on the border between the two countries during the celebrations for the lunar New Year. Beijing has thereby confirmed that its big talk about "wishing to restore and develop friendship with Vietnam" is totally spurious.

There is just one reason why the Chinese side contantly rejects the SRV's proposals for the restoration of normal relations between the two countries -- it is Beijing's hostile policy with respect to Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, a policy which remains unchanged and pursues expansionist, hegemonist ends, the newspaper points out.

China continues to maintain constant tension on the SRV's northern border. It is carrying out subversive activity against the SRV, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the PRK, provoking confrontation between the states of Indochina and the ASEAN countries, and undermining peace and stability in southeast Asia.

NHAN DAN emphasizes that this policy runs counter to the aspirations of the PRC people, with whom the Vietnamese people have always valued their friendship. However, Beijing's actions make us constantly enhance our vigilance and struggle resolutely against its hegemonist policy, the newspaper writes in conclusion.

'PRESSURE' BEHIND U.S. GENERAL'S THAILAND TRIP

LD211017 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0732 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Bangkok, 20 Jan (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Romanov reports: Jerome O'Malley, commander of the U.S. Air Force in the Pacific Ocean region, has ended his visit to Thailand. During the course of 3 days he has had talks with representatives of the Supreme Command of the Thai Armed Forces.

Judging from press reports, the American visitor made it clear to his interlocutors that the Pentagon is interested in selling a consignment of the latest F-16 fighter-bombers to Thailand and is ready to subsidize the purchase of these modern warplanes, which are capable of delivering nuclear weapons over a distance of more than 1,000 km.

Observers note that the American general's tour had demonstrated Washington's growing pressure on Bangkok in order to exacerbate tension in the region and to draw Thailand towards the U.S. adventurist strategy in Asia. By inciting Thailand and other ASEAN countries to a path of militarism, the U.S. is striving to turn the association into a military bloc, ignoring the fact that ASEAN was set up to promote regional economic and cultural cooperation.

AUCCTU CHAIRMAN SHALAYEV ADDRESSES PLANT MEETING

AU202050 Prague PRACE in Czech 19 Jan 84 pp 2, 3

[Speech by Stepan Shalayev, CPSU Central Committee member, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium member, and AUCCTU chairman, at the plant meeting held at the AVIA works in Prague-Letnany on 18 January: "We Are Bound by Identical Goals"; passages in uppercase published in boldface]

[Excerpts] DEAR COMRADES, PERMIT ME TO MAKE USE OF THE PRESENT OCCASION TO CONVEY TO YOU, AND THROUGH YOU TO THE ENTIRE GLORIOUS WORKER CLASS OF SOCIALIST CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE ARDENT FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM THE SOVIET WORKING PEOPLE AND FROM THEIR TRADE UNIONS.

The people of both our countries are bound by identical vital interests and by the noble goals of builders of socialism and communism. The unshakable foundations of their fraternal relations are the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, which are the core of the CPSU's and CPCZ's combat unity and cohesion.

Development of Fraternal Relations

THE MULTILATERAL SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS, WHICH HAVE ACHIEVED A HIGH LEVEL, CONTINUE TO CONSISTENTLY CONSOLIDATE AND DEVELOP, FOLLOWING AN UPWARD TREND IN FULL HARMONY WITH THE AGREEMENT ON FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION, AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE USSR AND CSSR OF 6 MAY 1970.

The cooperation of working people and trade unions has become a vital part of our peoples' life, as well as an effective factor in socialist and communist construction, of the consolidation of the world socialist system, and of the ensurance of peace and international security. From year to year, this cooperation is becoming more expedient, more multilateral, and more effective.

The fruitful cooperation of the working people and the trade unions of our countries is a convincing proof of the fact that, if we unite our efforts, our forces not only merge, they also multiply.

To Prevent the War Threat

THE UNITY AND COHESION OF THE WORKING PEOPLE AND THE PEOPLE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND OF THE ENTIRE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY, ARE TAKING ON A SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE PARTICULARLY TODAY, WHEN WORLD IMPERIALISM, HEADED BY THE UNITED STATES, HAS DECLARED A "CRUSADE" AGAINST SOCIALISM. THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION IS DRIVING MANKIND IN THE DIRECTION OF A NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE. AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S WILL, WASHINGTON HAS STARTED DEPLOYING U.S. INTERMEDIATE-RANGE MISSILES ON THE TERRITORIES OF THE FRG, GREAT BRITAIN, AND ITALY. THIS HAS CAUSED A DISRUPTION OF THE APPROXIMATE EQUILIBRIUM OF MILITARY FORCES BETWEEN THE NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT MEMBER-STATES IN EUROPE -- AN EQUILIBRIUM WHICH UP TO THAT TIME HAD OBJECTIVELY SERVED THE CAUSE OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND STABILITY.

The main purpose of the militarist, aggressive actions of U.S. imperialism is to achieve military supremacy over the socialist countries, so as to be able to conduct negotiations with them from a position of strength and diktat.

HOWEVER, WE ARE ABLE TO RESOLUTELY DECLARE THAT THESE INTENTIONS ARE FULLY DOOMED TO FAIL. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD REALIZE THE GROWING DANGER AND ARE UNIFYING THEIR EFFORTS IN THE NAME OF LIFE ON EARTH. THE MASS PEACE MOVEMENTS, THE LARGE RALLIES, MEETINGS, MARCHES, RELAY RACES, AND WORKING SHIFTS -- ALL THIS HAS BECOME AN IMPORTANT FACTOR OF THE WORLD POLITICS, AN EXPRESSION OF MANKIND'S UNBREAKABLE LONGING FOR PEACE.

THE PEACE-LOVING FORCES IN ALL COUNTRIES HAVE RECEIVED WITH A FEELING OF GREAT GRATIFICATION THE DECLARATION OF COMRADE YU.V. ANDROPOV, CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GENERAL SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM, THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WILL NOT PERMIT THE NATO BLOC'S MILITARY SUPREMACY OVER THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES, AND THAT THEY WILL NOT PERMIT, IN THE NAME OF PRESERVING PEACE, THE EXISTING EQUILIBRIUM OF FORCES IN EUROPE TO BE DISRUPTED.

One of the important steps in this direction is the approval of the decision to start preparatory work for deploying operational-tactical enhanced-range missiles on the CSSR's and GDR's territories by the top government bodies of these two countries. This imposed measure has an exclusively defensive character.

The Soviet Union has very clearly declared that it is not striving for any military supremacy and that it continues to promote the course for breaking off feverish armament, particularly in regard to nuclear arms and in regard to the reduction and the following final liquidation of the danger of a nuclear war.

UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION, THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING OF LEADING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TRADE UNION CENTERS OF EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, HELD ON 16 JANUARY 1984 IN PRAGUE, STATED THAT BOTH THE WORKING PEOPLE AND THE TRADE UNIONS OF OUR COUNTRIES, WHICH PARTICIPATE IN THE FIGHT FOR PEACE, ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE. EVEN THOUGH THEY DO NOT UNDERRATE THE DANGER THAT HAS EMERGED AS THE RESULT OF THE IMPERIALISM'S ADVENTUROUS COURSE, THEY TRUST THAT MAN'S COMMON SENSE WILL WIN, BECAUSE THEY REALIZE THE ENORMOUS POSSIBILITIES OF THEIR STATES AND THE STRENGTH OF THEIR UNITED COURSE.

SHALAYEV VIEWS SOVIET-CSSR TRADE UNION RELATIONS

Prague Radio Interview

LD211008 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Interview granted by Stepan Shalayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the AUCCTU, by reporter Josef Knizata at the end of the AUCCTU delegation's visit to the CSSR -- recorded; Shalayev in Russian fading into Czech translation]

[Text] [Knizata] Comrade chairman, how do you evaluate the results of the discussions between the representatives of the trade union organizations of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia?

[Shalayev] We evaluate the results of the meeting between the AUCCTU delegation and the Central Council of Czechoslovak Trade Unions as very positive. Not only have we drawn general conclusions from what we have done in the past to strengthen the relations between Czechoslovak and Soviet trade unions, we also evaluated the present state of our relations. They are sincere and fraternal.

In a fraternal and comradely atmosphere, we came to the conclusion that this cooperation exists on a very high level, that we can do still more, and that an important part of our unions' work in the future will be to raise the relations between our union organizations to a qualitatively new level.

We discussed the direction that our cooperation is to take, and found an expression of this in the agreement that we signed this morning. It is called "Agreement of the AUCCTU and the Central Council of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement of Czechoslovakia, on Further Development of Cooperation Between the Unions of the Soviet Union and the CSSR." We consider this document a very important result of our discussions.

[Knizata] In the current international situation, one of the basic tasks of the working people within the unions is the struggle for peace. What concrete tasks did the Soviet trade unionists set for themselves in this sphere?

[Shalayev] You very rightly pointed out that the struggle for peace is one of the primary tasks for Soviet trade unionists as well trade unionists of other countries of the world. You are well acquainted with the extremely complicated situation created in Europe as a result of the deployment of new U.S. missiles. They have not only brought them into Europe, but according to reports they are already in a state of war readiness. And what does war readiness mean? It means they are aimed at their target. For U.S. missiles this target is the socialist countries. This means that the U.S. missiles have created a very dangerous, as we say explosive, situation in Europe. This is not to mention the military provocation on the part of NATO countries. Every technical mistake could even lead to war. As a result of this, neither our workers, nor workers of other European countries can be calm.

We must take measures. We must struggle for the removal of these nuclear systems from Europe. We must struggle to ensure that talks can go on after this has happened and that these talks are constructive, based on ensuring conditions of equal security and parity for both sides of the agreement. The struggle to achieve these aims, the struggle for cooperation with European trade unionists, trade unionists of other countries, is one of the main goals of our cooperation in the future. We will take an active part in the antiwar movement of trade unionists of Europe and the whole world.

[Knizata] Comrade Shalayev, what will be the further role played by the Soviet trade unions, and what are their current talks in connection with increasing the efficiency of production and strengthening the economic potential of the Soviet Union?

[Shalayev] These are very far-reaching tasks, and I would say that in the current stage of development of our country they are also the most important ones for our unions. This does not mean that we underestimate the other functions of unions, I am thinking of defense, education, social and other functions. We concern ourselves very actively with these and will continue to do so. Soviet unionists, however, understand very well, that the solution to social questions, the question of prosperity, is very closely linked with questions of economy.

I will give you this example. In the plan for 1984, every addition to the national income gained through the development of the national economy will be given for consumption -- every addition. This means that if the national plans for development, whether in individual areas or in the state as a whole, are not fulfilled -- if we do not achieve the growth of national income designated in the plan, it will endanger the solution to various social questions that are equally part of the plan. As a result, our countries' trade unionists see their main task not only in fulfilling the plan but in exceeding it. These are the very tasks toward which we are trying to motivate and organize our members.

We want to achieve this first and foremost by improving socialist competition, the activization of counterplanning, by increasing the attention paid by unionists to questions of thrift, good management, lowering demand for materials, increasing the quality of all production and productivity, by improving work organization, and improving our trade union sectors at the lowest level. This means that we must improve our economic and political work so that we can bring the tasks of the party's economic policy to each worker at his work place so that he can understand them completely.

Prague Television

LD210816 Prague Television Service in Czech and Slovak 1830 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Interview with CPSU Central Committee and Supreme Soviet Presidium member, AUCCTU Chairman Stepan Shalayev at the conclusion of his visit to the CSSR; date and time not specified -- questions and answers' recorded in Russian with superimposed Czech translation.]

[Text] [Unidentified interviewer] Comrade chairman, how do the Soviet trade unions participate in fulfilling the tasks of the economy?

[Shalayev] We consider improving our participation in the management of the economy to be our chief current task. We understand very well that an increase in the living standard of the population is related to the quality of our management of economic issues. How do we participate in dealing with economic issues? For example by improving the standard of socialist competition, by counter-planning, by mobilization of the working people to increase savings of material and energy, of all material and technical resources, by a greater involvement of trade unions in applying new equipment and technological methods -- that is in implementing scientific and technical progress. We use a number of other methods in our work too, which are important and very topical, and are connected with handling the above mentioned tasks.

[Interviewer] Last year a law on work collectives was adopted in the USSR. How does it influence the work of trade union organizations?

[Shalayev] The law on working collectives and increasing their role in production management is of great importance. We trade unions were directly involved in the preparation of this law and we find it very important, especially for increasing the social activity of the working people, starting with the individual worker. To increase social activity: This means in particular to strengthen the ties between the manager and his work, and the role of the trade unions is to help working collectives to use better all possibilities which the law gives them. The law has been valid since 1 August 1983, that is, half a year. During this time we have seen very interesting cases of working collectives becoming more active in the fulfillment of their production tasks as well as in the social and educational spheres. We put great hope in this new law because it stresses the role of work collectives, and gives greater responsibility to trade union organizations for the implementation of all new rights of collectives. Trade union organizations must work better if their responsibility toward people is greater -- and this is our aim.

BOOK ON CPCZ NATIONALITIES POLICY REVIEWED

PM181641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[I. Biryukov "Book Review": "Valuable Experience"]

[Text] The nationalities policy of the ruling communist and workers parties plays a very important part in socialist building.

Topical questions of this policy and the exposure of bourgeois and reformist conception of nationalism are the subject of the book "The Triumph of Truth" ["Torzhestvo Pravdy"] by Soviet historian M. Mukhtasipov (footnote) (M. Mikhtasipov, "The Triumph of Truth: The History of the Struggle To Establish the Leninist International and Nationalities Policy of the Working Class of Czechoslovakia and Its Communist Vanguard," Moscow, Mysl Publishing House, 1983). The book tells of the struggle of Czechoslovakia's working class and its communist vanguard for national relations of a new type. The book covers a significant period -- from the formation, in the conditions of the Hapsburg Empire, of the views of the proletariat in the Czech lands and Slovakia on mutual relations between nations and the elaboration of the CPCZ's nationalities policy to the victory of socialism, which opened up the way to the creation of a federation of two equal socialist republics of Czechs and Slovaks within the framework of the CSSR. This book, written on the basis of a large quantity of factual material, is devoted to summarizing the valuable experience of the fraternal Communist Party and revealing the significance of the CPCZ's contribution to the Marxist-Leninist resolution of the nationalities question.

The book shows convincingly how the opponents of the socialist system, opposing the growth in the workers' class consciousness, the victory of the revolution, and the building of a new life, resort to the poisoned weapon of nationalism. Imperialist forces, in attacking the CSSR, do not balk at any of the "nationalist viruses" -- from the long bankrupt Czech chauvinism of Masaryk or the Slovak separatism of the clerical fascists to the demagogical concepts of the figures in the so-called "Prague spring" of 1968, which were directed against proletarian internationalism. Implacability toward any manifestations of nationalism is an essential condition of the flourishing of socialist nations and the building of the new society.

The resolution of the nationalities question in the CSSR has become possible, the book's author rightly believes, because the CPCZ elaborates its policy on the basis both of the general laws of socialist revolution, and of careful consideration of the peculiarities of its own country's development. At the same time Czechoslovak communists, following Klement Gottwald, implement the party's nationalities policy in close conjunction with the international tasks of the international communist and workers movement, relying extensively on the historical experience of the country of Great October and the Leninist CPSU.

YEPISHEV VISITS MILITARY UNITS IN GDR

PM201940 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Colonel V. Vogdanovskiy report: "Meetings With Soldiers of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany"]

[Text] As has already been reported, Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, took part in the work of the party conference of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany.

During his stay with the group of forces he visited the Proskurov Red Banner Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov Motorized Rifle Regiment, the personnel of which were the initiators of socialist competition in the Ground Forces; he observed the actions at a tactical exercise involving the men of X air regiment and familiarized himself with the work of the working people at one of the aircraft repair enterprises.

The chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate gave a high assessment of the training of personnel belonging to subunits commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Semkin and Lieutenant V. Zayats and remarked on the ability of many exercise leaders to make competent use of the modern material training base to boost the effectiveness and quality of the training process. Army General A.A. Yepishev awarded valuable gifts to airman-marksmen Colonel Ye. Belyakov and airmen first class Captains S. Bunin, M. Pidluzhnyak, V. Yermol, and V. Golobokov, who had demonstrated high flying and tactical skill.

At meetings with soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, officers, and members of the servicemen's families, Army General A.A. Yepishev conveyed to them ardent greetings and wishes for new successes in combat and political training, happiness, and well-being from Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and from Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of defense. The chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate talked about the labor successes achieved by the Soviet people, who are engaged in the fulfillment of the plans and programs outlined by our party's 26th Congress.

In conversations with unit and formation commanders Army General A.A. Yepishev voiced satisfaction with the state and progress of combat and political training and noted the high political enthusiasm among the personnel generated by the decisions of the December (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and by the preparations for the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet. He voiced specific recommendations for the further improvement of organizational and political education work among the group's soldiers in the light of the demands stemming from the decisions of the June and December (1983) Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, as well as the USSR defense minister's demands concerning the further heightening of combat readiness.

The soldiers of the units and subunits expressed ardent gratitude to the Communist Party, its Leninist Central Committee, and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo for their constant concern to strengthen the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces and for their paternal attention to the motherland's defenders, and they gave the assurance that, in the conditions of an international situation sharply exacerbated through the fault of the U.S. imperialists, they will learn their military business still more persistently, display revolutionary vigilance, and maintain the combat readiness of the units and subunits at the level of contemporary requirements.

Accompanying chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate Army General A.A. Yepishev were: Army General M.M. Zaytsev, commander of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany; Colonel General A.D. Lizichev, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Group of Forces; Colonel General V.A. Goncharov, first deputy chief of the USSR Defense Ministry's Main Personnel Directorate; Lieutenant General of Aviation V.I. Korobov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Aviation Political Department of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany.

U.S. MEDIA REPORT GDR, CSSR MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD201412 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 20 TASS -- The U.S. mass media featured prominently reports from the GDR and Czechoslovakia on the deployment there of the Soviet Union's first tactical missiles with an increased range. Commentaries on these reports point out that the Soviet Union's practical measures in response to the introduction of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe are a stern reminder to the U.S. and NATO of the fact that the USSR takes a serious view of the situation emerging on the European Continent and has a firm intention to follow the line announced by it if the West does not revise its position.

The press points out that these reports are dispelling the illusions which the Reagan administration would like to create, namely, the illusions that the dialogue between the USSR and the USA on arms limitations is possible under conditions of the further escalation of the U.S. war potential in close proximity of the Soviet borders and that it is possible to talk to the Soviet Union "from positions of strength." THE WASHINGTON POST notes, in particular, that the measures taken by the USSR in response demonstrate how groundless are the expectations that the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe can resume in Geneva under present circumstances.

The White House press secretary has told journalists that, in the view of the U.S. Administration, the deployment of additional weapons in Eastern Europe by the Soviet Union was not justified. The further discourses of the official spokesmen demonstrated that the White House would like to obscure that issue with all sorts of rhetoric to the effect that the deployment of U.S. missiles has not in the least changed the situation in Europe.

Contrary to this line of the White House, the U.S. mass media attach much attention to reports about the deployment of Soviet missiles in the GDR and Czechoslovakia, stressing that the Soviet Union is taking these measures in response to the deployment of U.S. missiles in a number of West European countries.

U.S. 'EMPHASIS' ON DEPLOYMENT IN LUBBER TALKS

LD201018 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1523 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Washington, 20 Jan (TASS) -- Netherlands Prime Minister R. Lubbers, who is here on a working visit, has had a meeting at the White House with U.S. President R. Reagan. As was officially announced at the White House, "main attention at the meeting was given to East-West relations and to the political situation in Europe." An administration spokesman pointed out that the President assured the Netherlands prime minister "of his sincere wish to improve these relations and to reduce nuclear armaments."

These assurances are, however, nothing more than a verbal screen behind which Washington would like to conceal the nature of the U.S.-Netherlands talks from the public. Informed observers note that during the White House meeting and the subsequent talks between R. Lubbers and U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger the main emphasis was placed on the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles -- Pershing II's and cruise missiles -- that has begun in West Europe.

As we know, as a result of powerful opposition from broad public and political circles in the Netherlands to the NATO plans the government of that country has not yet given its consent to the deployment of U.S. missiles on Netherlands territory. According to reports, strong pressure was exerted on R. Lubbers in Washington with the aim of securing a "positive" solution of this question for the United States and NATO. Demands were made of Lubbers that his government "should decide as quickly as possible its position" on this question.

ARKHIPOV TO VISIT FRANCE END OF JANUARY

LD221431 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] At the invitation of the French Government, Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, will pay an official visit to France at the end of January and the beginning of February.

USSR-PORTUGUESE TRADE SESSION OPENS IN LISBON

LD180747 Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Lisbon January 18 TASS -- The fifth session of the mixed Soviet-Portuguese commission on verifying the course of implementation of the trade agreement dated December 19, 1974 has opened here. The Soviet delegation to the session is led by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister of the USSR A.N. Manzhulo, the Portuguese -- by Secretary of State for Foreign Trade of Portugal Raquel Ferreira. The session will discuss prospects of expanding trade exchange between the two countries.

Talking to journalists, the heads of both delegations expressed the intention to develop mutually-beneficial trade relations in the interests of the peoples of the USSR and Portugal, in the interests of peace.

Intention To Continue Efforts

LD211617 Moscow TASS in English 1544 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Lisbon January 21 TASS -- The Soviet-Portuguese mixed commission to review progress in the fulfillment of a trade agreement between the USSR and Portugal held its fifth session in Lisbon on January 17-20.

The session examined the results and prospects of Soviet-Portuguese trade and economic relations. The two sides expressed their intention to continue efforts to further develop and diversify mutually advantageous trade.

The work of the mixed commission proceeded in the spirit of mutual understanding and in a friendly and businesslike atmosphere.

SWEDISH CP MEETS, PRAISES USSR ARMS POSITION

LD222132 Moscow TASS in English 1928 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Stockholm January 22 TASS -- By TASS correspondent N. Vukolov:

A plenary meeting of the Swedish Workers' Communist Party has closed here. The plenum discussed the party's tasks at the present stage, communists' participation in the campaign for peace and detente against the big capital offensive on the economic and social rights of the working people. The plenum examined the activity of the newspaper NORSKENSFLAMMAN [name as received], party publication, and its tasks in propagating the policy of peace and disarmament and invigorating actions in defence of the vital interests of the working people.

Rolf Hagen, chairman of the party executive, delivered a report at the plenum. On the international situation, he said that it [is] sharply aggravated due to the started deployment in Europe of American medium-range nuclear missiles. It is necessary, the speaker said, to give a most befitting rebuff to the Reagan administration's attempts to involve Europe in the orbit of the Pentagon's war preparations. The conference on security-building measures, and security and disarmament in Europe, which started in Stockholm, Rolf Hagen said, opens new possibilities for dialogue in the interests of strengthening confidence, cooperation, peace and security.

The plenum's participants unanimously adopted a declaration highly assessing the position of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which demonstrated since the very beginning of the conference their will to ensure security and expand cooperation in the continent.

Further invigoration of the peace campaign, the declaration says, can play an important role for the Stockholm conference's successful work and fulfilment of its objectives.

'OUTRAGEOUS' ITALIAN COURT DECISION ON ANTONOV

LD150022 Moscow TASS in English 2246 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Rome January 14 TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Solomn reports:

The reactionary forces of Italy are not going to give up their futile attempts to prove the involvement of Bulgarian citizens in the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul in May 1981. This is evidenced by the court decision refuting the resolution on releasing from prison Sergey Antonov, an employee of the Bulgarian airline in Italy and transfering him under house arrest. Antonov's lawyers are to submit within three days arguments against the motives of that outrageous action to the court of appeals. Otherwise their client will again find himself behind the bars.

This development has amazed the democratic public, which demands that the real organizers of the crime be found and called to account as soon as possible.

Sergey Antonov was arrested more than a year ago on the false information of the Turkish terrorist Agca, who shot the pope. Charges were made against other Bulgarian citizens as well. Investigation found out without much difficulty, however, that Agca's claims were groundless and refuted his "revelations." Small wonder that the court indicted Agca for giving false evidence.

The Italian press has pointed out on more than one occasion that the Turkish terrorist, belonging to the fascist organization "Grey Wolves," has been brainwashed by the Italian secret services taking their orders from the Central Intelligence Agency. The weekly L'ESPRESSO has pointed out that when Agca was in prison he was visited by employees of the Italian secret services. According to the weekly, they promised the terrorist to have his prison sentence reduced in exchange for his "services" in the unseemly business of whipping up anti-Bulgarian and anti-socialist propaganda.

'Unfair, Unfounded' Decision

LD141228 Moscow TASS in English 1159 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Sofia January 14 TASS -- The BTA Agency has issued a statement strongly condemning the decision of the Italian judicial authorities to return to prison Bulgarian Citizen S. Antonov, who was arrested on a charge, trumped up on the instructions of Western secret services, of complicity in the attempt on the life of the pope in May 1981. Sergei Antonov was released from prison last December for health reasons and was under house arrest.

The Bulgarian public hopes, the statement stresses, that common sense will prevail and that the unfair and unfounded decision will be cancelled.

USSR CYPRUS SIGN TREATY ON LEGAL ASSISTANCE

LD200439 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- A treaty between the USSR and the Republic of Cyprus on legal assistance in civil and criminal cases was signed today. It is called upon to promote the further development and strengthening of relations between the two states in the legal field on the principles of peaceful coexistence, equality, reciprocity, respect for independence and sovereignty.

The document was signed by USSR Minister of Justice Vladimir Terebilov and Cyprus Minister of Justice Phoebus Kliridhis.

BRIEFS

NETHERLANDS ARCHIVE AGREEMENT -- The Hague, 17 Jan (TASS) -- In accordance with the agreement on cultural cooperation between the USSR and the Netherlands, consultations were held between a Soviet and a Netherlander delegation in the Hague 9-14 January 1984 regarding cooperation between the archives of the two countries, and in particular regarding the organization of a joint exhibition of historic documents and materials on the relations between the two countries in the period from the fifteenth to the early twentieth centuries. The Soviet delegation was led by P. Sevostyanov, chief of the Archives Administration at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Netherlands delegation was led by A.E. Ribberink, director of the State Archives of the Netherlands. Further consultations are to be held in Moscow. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1215 GMT 17 Jan 84 LD]

REAGAN AFFIRMS TROOPS MAINTAINED IN LEBANON

LD230929 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Washington, January 23 TASS -- The U.S. is going to maintain its military presence in Lebanon. This has been stated point blank by President Reagan in a message to the Congressmen L. Espin (Democrat, Wisconsin) and L. Hamilton (Democrat, Indiana). Specifically, he pointed out the impossibility of a "unilateral withdrawal" of American troops from Lebanon.

The policy aimed at the expansion of military intervention in the internal affairs of Lebanon was reaffirmed by the U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, speaking in a TV program of the "ABC" television company. He said that the U.S. armada sailing off the Lebanese coast was ready to deliver "preventive" blows on separate regions of Lebanon.

U.S. NAVY OFF LEBANON IN SECURITY ZONE ON ALERT

LD221341 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] New York January 22 TASS -- American naval forces off the Lebanese coast as well as in the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman have been alerted to high combat readiness, the NBC television network reported quoting Pentagon sources.

The U.S. naval servicemen in these areas have been given orders allowing them to destroy any ship or civilian aircraft, irrespective of their identification markings, in the so-called security zones around the American ships there.

Planned Attacks on U.S. Ships

LD211633 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 21 TASS -- The command of a mighty American squadron, deployed by the Pentagon off Lebanon's shores, has issued an order on destruction of all civil planes that would find themselves in the area of its dislocation [as received], irrespective of their identification marks. That was reported by the CBS television company, with reference to officials of the Reagan administration. The decision, contrary to international norms, was taken under the pretext of "ensuring security" of the U.S. combatant ships which were sent to Lebanon's shores in line with Reagan administration's course of armed interference in the internal affairs of that country.

For a few days now officials of the U.S. Administration have been intimidating the Americans with an allegedly planned "attack from the air" on American ships. Information which appeared in American press patently shows that by such means Washington is trying to justify its own plans of expansion of massive bombardment of Lebanese territory. Thus, it became known to UPI that the White House was considering the question of dealing the so-called "preemptive strikes" from the air on "positions of terrorists" in Lebanon. Translated from the language of American diplomacy, this means bombardment of camps of civilian refugees in Lebanon, the first from the air at positions of Lebanese people's-patriotic forces, and also the contingent of Syrian troops, which is stationed on the territory of that country as part of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force.

U.S. SEEN EXPLOITING LEBANON SITUATION

LD211614 Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut January 21 TASS -- The Lebanese patriots continue to attack the Israeli invaders in the south of the country. Yesterday the guerrillas carried out four successful operations in the area of Sayda and Adlun, inflicting on the invaders losses in manpower and materiel.

Intercommunal strife, fuelled by Tel Aviv and its agents, does not subside in the central parts of Lebanon. According to the newspaper AS-SAFIR, hositilities flared up in 80 cities and population centres yesterday. As a consequence, 10 people were killed and 45 wounded.

Exploiting the aggravation of the situation in Lebanon, ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet yesterday came close to the Lebanese coast. The command of the U.S. task force ordered that all the civilian planes flying over the U.S. warships be destroyed regardless of their identification. This fact has been reported by the CBS T.V. company, quoting officials of the Reagan administration. This decision, which is at odds with international law, was taken under the pretext of "ensuring the security" of the U.S. naval vessels, sent to the shores of sovereign Lebanon by the Reagan administration in pursuit of its course of escalating armed intervention in the internal affairs of that country.

UPI reports that the White House considers delivering "pre-emptive strikes" at Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, the positions of the national patriotic forces of the country and also the Syrian troops contingent of the pan-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

Notable Lebanese politicain Rashid Karami, former prime minister of the country, advocates the settlement of the Lebanese crisis on the basis of the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from the country and the repudiation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement imposed by Washington. giving an interview to the weekly AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI, he denounced the attempts at dividing Lebanon and stressed that all the Lebanese stood for the continued unity, sovereignty and independence of their homeland. That position is a guarantee of the frustration of the plans to divide the country, which are backed by the imperialists and the Zionists, Rashid Karami said.

U.S. FANS 'FLAMES OF WAR' IN MIDDLE EAST

LD212356 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] American military vessels, including the "New Jersey" battleship, have again heavily shelled Lebanese villages this week. More from our observer Valentin Lapin:

What we deal with is a new act in the Lebanese tragedy. The first was played by the American's strategic ally Israel when it captured nearly half of the Lebanese territory a year and a half ago. Now the second act is being played, with the American military machine moving to the front. The American Navy is pounding Lebanese towns and villages, and the grim results of all these actions is a total of 60,000 killed, more than 100,000 wounded, and even more homeless in a country where 3 million people live.

President Reagan first declared that his administration was working untiringly to ensure a just peace in the Middle East, and then he gave his navy and air force a free hand in hitting any targets in Lebanon. Reagan's so-called just peace is actually to make a Middle East Grenada out of Lebanon. It is an attempt to wipe off the political map a whole nation, the Palestinians.

It is finally an attempt to establish an American-Israeli domination over the entire Middle Eastern region. In general, can there be peace resting on violence? Of course not. It is hardly surprising therefore that the actions of both the United States and Israel run against the resistance of the Arab peoples.

Is there a way for solving the dangerous Middle East conflict? Yes there is. It is a negotiated political settlement. The vast majority of countries favor it. Consultations are now under way at the UN headquarters over the proposal to convene an international conference on the Middle East. The proposal, advanced by the Soviet Union at one time, received support at the latest UN General Assembly session. The Soviet Union suggested that 15 countries, members of the UN Security Council, as well as all the parties directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, be invited to the conference. A just settlement should be based on the withdrawal of all the Israeli troops from the occupied territories. The Palestinian people must be given an opportunity to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and the establishment of a state of their own.

These principles of a political solution win broad support the world over. They were approved in particular at the just-ended top-level meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization in Casablanca. The vast majority of the international community demands that guns should stop firing in the Middle East and that the aggressor should withdraw from all foreign territories. Yet Washington officials refuse to listen to the voice of reason. They continue putting their stakes on force and fanning the flames of war in the Middle East. These flames, however, may spread on to other parts of the world.

IRAN OCCUPIES PANJWIN; IRAQ BOMBS CENTRAL FRONT

PM201057 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS reports: "Iran-Iraq: Stubborn Fighting"]

[Text] Nicosia, 18 Jan -- According to a Tehran TV report, during fighting Iranian troops have occupied the city of Panjwin in Iraqi Kurdistan. The Iranian Army began active combat operations in this region last October.

Baghdad, 18 Jan -- According to an account published here by Iraq's chief Military Command, the main military operations in the past few days have taken place in the central section of the front. The Iraqi Air Force bombed enemy positions inflicting losses of manpower and equipment.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR 13 JAN

Soviet Support for PLO

LD132344 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Tonight at his headquarters in Tunis, 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, received the Soviet ambassador to Tunisia in the presence of the PLO representative, Hakam Bal'awi. The Soviet ambassador confirmed the principled and firm attitude of his country toward the Palestine cause. He said there can be no solution to the Palestine problem unless an independent Palestinian state is established, led by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The ambassador praised the struggle of the Palestinian people on all fronts and also the wisdom and courage of Yasir 'Arafat. He also praised the role and attitude of the Palestinian people, represented by their support for their legitimate leadership.

Receives 'Very Important' Message

LD141126 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1057 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, 14 Jan (KUNA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has received a message from the Soviet leadership which is described as "very important." However, details of the message have not been revealed. The message was delivered to 'Arafat when he was received by the Soviet ambassador to Tunisia yesterday evening.

PLO Information Officer Khalid al-Hasan declined to give any details on the message or the talks that took place between 'Arafat and the Soviet ambassador during their 2-hour meeting. He told KUNA that "nothing can be revealed about the contents of the message or the talks because they touch on extremely sensitive matters." Khalid al-Hasan said that "the exchange of letters between the Soviet and Palestinian leaderships is continuing."

PLO OFFICIAL IN MOSCOW FOR OFFICIAL TALKS

LD141324 Kuwait KUNA in English 1203 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow, Jan 14 (KUNA) -- Member of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin) arrived here Friday night, it was reported Saturday.

Abu Mazin will hold official talks on Arab situation and the Lebanese crisis following the departure of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and his fighting men from Lebanon last month. Abu Mazin is expected to be carrying a message from the PLO leader 'Arafat to Soviet President Yuri Andropov on the latest developments in Fatah organization and results of meetings held recently in Tunisia.

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH VISITS MOSCOW FOR TALKS

Condemns PLO-Egypt Meeting

NC201414 Paris AFP in English 1357 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow, Jan 20 (AFP) -- The leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), Nayif Hawatimah, today condemned the meeting in December of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Mr Hawatimah, who is here on the invitation of the Soviet leaderhsip, said Mr 'Arafat acted against decisions taken by Arab summits.

The move could "incite other Arab countries to follow suit" and allow Egypt to continue the process started by the Camp David accords, he said.

He went on to criticise Jordan's recent decision to allow Palestinians from both banks of the Jordan to take up seats in parliament because it went against the Arab summit resolution that named the PLO as sole representative of the Palestinian people.

On the subject of the PLO's internal wrangiings, he said he favoured a more democratic "collegial" style leadership for the organization. At the same time he predicted a greater rapprochement with Syria, which has been supporting anti-'Arafat dissidents. His views are in line with the Kremlin, which favours good relations between the PLO and Syria.

Condemns U.S. Mideast Policy

LD202234 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1602 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jan (TASS) -- Speaking here today at a press conference, Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), called for unity among all detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement and progressive forces in the Arab world. He stated that the PLO, being the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian Arab people, decisively rejects any settlement of the Near East problem within the framework of the Camp David agreements, the Reagan plan, and the "agreement" foisted upon Lebanon by Israel and the United States. Nayif Hawatimah stressed: The realization of the Arab Palestinians' inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination and the creation of their own independent state, should form the political basis for resolving the Palestinian question.

The general secretary of the DFLP condemned Washington's Near East policy, pointing out that Reagan's policy is a hindrance to any possibility of a just settlement of the Palestinian problem. He said that as long as Israel and the United States continue to foist their plans for a Near East "settlement" on the Arab people, events in that region will continue to have the features of a bloody conflict.

Talking about the perspectives for resolving the crisis in the Near East, Hawatimah spoke out in favor of convening an international conference on this question, with the obligatory participation of a PLO delegation. The general secretary of the DFLP expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for their support of the just struggle of the Arab people of Palestine under the leadership of the PLO.

SYRIA, LIBYA, PDRY WALK OUT OF ICO SUMMIT

LD201206 Moscow TASS in English 1058 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat January 20 TASS -- The fourth summit of the Islamic Conference Organisation member-states has come to a close in the Moroccan city of Casablanca. Centre stage to the debate at the summit was the situation in the Middle East. The summit adopted documents which formally denounce the expansionist policy pursued by Tel Aviv and openly supported by U.S. imperialism. The summit participants stressed that the so-called "strategic cooperation" between the United States and Israel encouraged Zionists to continue acts of provocation and aggression in the Middle East.

The heads of state and government of Moslem countries expressed support for the Fez Arab plan to establish peace in the Middle East and of the Arab Palestinian people's struggle to exercise their legitimate national rights. The delegates denounced the continued occupation by Israel of Arab lands, including eastern Jerusalem, and the policy to build unlawfully militarized settlements on the seized Arab lands.

The summit participants expressed serious concern over the continued Iran-Iraq conflict and urged the sides to end bloodshed as soon as possible. They approved a number of resolutions to develop economic, cultural, and scientific and technological cooperation between the Islamic Conference member-countries.

Under the pressure of the conservative Moslem regimes the summit adopted, following lengthy debates, a resolution offering Egypt to resume membership in the organization from which it was expelled in 1979. In the expression of protest against the adoption of this resolution representatives of Syria, Libya and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen walked out of the conference.

The summit also passed a decision to admit into the organization Brunei which has become the Islamic Conference's 45th member.

SYRIAN LEADER ON STRUGGLE AGAINST U.S., ZIONISM

LD221533 Moscow TASS in English 1409 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus January 22 TASS -- The Syrian people will continue opposing the plans of U.S. imperialism and Zionism who are bent on destroying the Palestinian resistance movement and imposing their capitulatory plans on the Arab peoples. A statement to this effect has been made here by Zuhayr Masharqah [TASS spelling], assistant secretary general of the regional leadership of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party.

Syria will carry on the struggle to counter the intrigues of the forces of imperialism and reaction, work to liberate the lands occupied by Israel and to regain the flouted rights of the peoples living in the occupied territories. Zhuhayr Masharqah stressed that Syria would give the necessary assistance to the Arab Palestinian people's struggle and work to grant Palestinians their lawful rights, including the right to self-determination and establishment of an independent national state.

COMMENT ON ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN CASABLANCA

LD202253 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Excerpts] The summit conference of Islamic countries at Casablanca, about which we have already been telling you, has finished its work. Its decisions reflect the complexities and contradictions that are characteristic of that organization, which with the admission of Brunei has 45 diverse Asian and African states as members.

The sharpest polemics among the delegates of the conference arose over the proposal to renew Egypt's membership in the Islamic Conference Organization, from which it was excluded in 1979 after signing the separatist Camp David accord and its establishment of relations with Israel. It became known from circles close to the conference that the delegations of Syria, Libya, democratic Yemen, and Tunisia, where the headquarters of the Arab League is located, emphatically objected to the proposal. The Tunisian representative told the conference that raising the issue is untimely because the reasons that caused the participation of Egypt in the Islamic Conference Organization to be frozen have still not been eliminated. When it became known that under pressure from conservative Muslim regimes a decision had been made proposing that Egypt be brought back among the Islamic states, the delegations of Libya and Syria left the final convening of the meeting, Jallud, the Libyan representative, stated at a press conference in Casablanca that he assessed the decision as an attempt to achieve an Arabization of the Camp David agreements, which have been condemned by the entire Arab world.

I think that this decision goes beyond the framework of the work of the Casablanca meeting and reflects a striving by certain Western circles to bring about a split in the ranks of the developing Muslim states, above all the Arab ones, and to expand the framework of their influence in this region.

RAKAH DELEGATION TO HOLD TALKS WITH CPSU LEADERS

TA141741 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1725 GMT 14 Jan 84

["RAKAH Delegation to Moscow To Hold Talks With CPSU leaders" -- ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 14 Jan (ITIM) -- At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, a delegation from the RAKAH Central Committee will be going to Moscow on Monday, 16 January, to hold high-level talks.

The RAKAH delegation is comprised of RAKAH Secretary General Me'ir Wilner, Political Bureau member and RAKAH spokesman 'Uzi Burstein, member of the Central Committee Secretariat and Chairman of the Department for Foreign Relations Georges Tubi, and member of the Central Committee Leon Zehavi.

The RAKAH delegation will hold talks with members of the CPSU leadership. The talks will mainly concentrate on the situation in the Middle East, the attempts to prevent another war, the ways to attain peace, and relations and their improvement between RAKAH and the CPSU. It should be noted that the last time talks were held on such a high level was in May 1980. The RAKAH delegation will spend about a week in Moscow.

FORMATION OF NEW ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT REPORTED

LD230508 Moscow TASS in English 0457 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers January 23 TASS -- The formation of a new Government of Algeria by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, general secretary of the National Liberation Front (FLN) Party, has been officially announced here. Abdelhamid Brahimi who was earlier the minister of planning and territorial development, has been appointed the prime minister. Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi has been reappointed the minister of foreign affairs.

The announcement by the office of the Republic's president points out that the structural and personal changes what have been effected in the government are aimed at ensuring a more concerted and purposeful work to develop the Algerian economy in accordance with the goals and tasks defined at the recent fifth congress of the FLN.

BACKGROUND LEADING TO NIGERIAN COUP ANALYZED

PM201635 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 84 p 3

[Commentary by TASS political observer Sergey Kulik written specially for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA and published under the rubric "Subject of the Day": "Nigeria: The Background to the Coup" -- first paragraph is a KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA editorial introduction]

[Text] Our reader V. Krotov from Perm asks: "I would like to know more details about the causes of the coup d'etat in Nigeria. What is the current situation in the country." This problem is also of interest to P. Zemtsov from Vologda, N. Semenov from Odessa, and many other readers of our newspaper.

It is worth speaking in detail about the latest events in Nigeria because, like a prism, they refract many of the problems and trends typical of the African countries that have remained in the orbit of capitalist development. Having failed to diminish their economic dependence on the West during the years of their independent political existence, these countries have naturally failed to improve the living conditions of the African masses. At the same time, the emergence of a numerically small stratum of black nouveaux riches, who have adopted the European way of life and also permit themselves an opulence of which the former colonialists could not even dream, only goes to complicate matters. By aggravating and emphasizing the social contrasts, these representatives of the local elite play the role of involuntary "provocateurs" of state upheavals at the summit of a number of African countries.

This is one of the main causes of the coups d'etat which are so frequent on the Black Continent and which let off the "steam of social dissatisfaction" of the tens of millions of working people who have not tasted the economic fruits of independence over the last two decades. Nor is it obligatory that the next coup should come from the left and its leaders be adherents of revolutionary ideas. The following situation can also arise: The initiative to change power is seized by political forces who, aware that the people no longer wish to live in the old way, act in anticipation of the emergence of far more radical forces. Even these politicians, however, perceiving the mood of the masses, are forced, while holding positions of bourgeois nationalism, to renounce the most unpopular measures of the previous regime and to call its most offensive representatives to task. But they are not the only ones to blame....

Seizing on the Nigerian coup, which was a kind of opener for the new year in Africa, bourgeois propaganda gloated over it from openly racist positions: Events in this largest and richest country in the continent reflect all the "vices of black rule" and blacks' "inability" to resolve complex economic and social problems in a modern fashion.

This is disputable. It is true that Nigeria has the potential to be a great African power and that one in five inhabitants of the Black Continent is Nigerian. However, the country's vast potential has not always been fully utilized, and this is by no means primarily the fault of the Nigerians themselves. Immediately after granting independence in 1960, London imposed a constition upon them which was not viable, played only into the hand of the forces of tribalism and separatism, and weakened central rule. Corrupt compradors with a neocolonialist way of thinking were placed at the head of that rule. The people overthrew them in 1966. In their desire to normalize political life in the country, its new leaders revised the Lancaster legislation [presumably reference to London's Lancaster House -- venue for Nigerian independence talks in 1958-1960] and started threatening the positions of major landowners, separatists, and the bureaucratic elite who had cooperated with the former colonialists.

The West's response to these legitimate steps was the "Biafra crisis" provoked by neocolonialists -- an attempt by multinational monopolies to split away from Nigeria its oil-rich areas, which involved the entire country in a protracted and bloody civil war. Due credit must be given to the whole of Africa. Nigeria's unity and territorial integrity were preserved through the OAU's efforts in support of the country's healthy forces.

Nevertheless, as had often happened in the past and still occurs in Africa, Nigeria's basic asset -- oil -- again turned into a source of evil for the country's people. Under the conditions of the "energy crisis" in the seventies, Western and primarily U.S. monopolies began to unjustifiably step up the extraction of Nigerian "black gold" along the coast to the detriment of the national ecnomy's other sectors and contrary to the interests of the development of other regions. When the "oil boom" was over, the price of liquid fuel fell and its extraction was cut by half in comparison with 1981. That was the time when Nigeria's years-long dependence on petroleum, imposed on it by the West and accounting for 95 percent of its export income, inevitably made itself felt.

Although the mushrooming skyscrapers of Lagos staggered the imagination while traffic jams in the Nigerian capital's streets rivaled those in New York, the same city held several dismal records. For 2 years now Lagos has had the reputation of being the most expensive city in the world. In the last 2 weeks of 1983 alone, the price of rice, which is the "Nigerians' bread," rose 15 percent, milk 20 percent, and meat 32 percent. At the same time, the number of unemployed amounted to almost 50 percent of adult Lagos citizens, while those working in state institutions had received no salary for the past year. The state's treasury was empty. "The workers' patience is running out," (Kh. Sunmonu), chairman of the Nigerian Congress of Labor, warned the authorities in his New Year message. AFP's Lagos correspondent, on the other hand, reported: "This Christmas is the most depressing in the country's entire history. Although the Nigerians have the reputation of being restrained people, the acuteness of the crisis in the country has reached the dangerous point when the cup of patience overflows...."

Under these conditions a military coup took place during the night of 30-31 December -- the fifth in that country's history since it was granted independence in 1960. Former President Shagari was arrested in Abuja, the future Nigerian capital which is now under construction, where he had gone to celebrate the New Year. Later, according to AP reports, he was seen handcuffed in the north of the country, in Kaduna, where he is kept under guard. The coup could be described as "bloodless" had it not been for the death of General Ibrahim (Bako), who was killed by a captain from the presidential guard when he tried to arrest Shagari.

The population everywhere welcomed the overthrow of the former government. Support for the new leadership has been expressed by the trade unions, student youth, and public organizations. "All Lagos newspapers without exception also approve of the change," THE GUARDIAN correspondent D. Polster reported.

"At the same time they criticize the Shagari regime for its incompetence, greed, and extravagance." Another British newspaper, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, reported: "The situation in the country remains calm and the military presence is unobtrusive." By the second day of the military coming to power, the situation in Nigerian cities had already returned to normal. "The main driving force of the coup," Major General Mohammed Buhari, head of the new regime, declared, "was the awareness of the need to lead the country out of the economic difficulties and save it from total collapse."

What is behind this statement? As the French newspaper L'HUMANITE wrote, "rampant capitalism, with its ignorance of all restraining principles and its glaring injustice and scandals, helped worsen the social climate in Nigeria." The timid attempts by the authorities to normalize the situation and increase state revenue by reducing the vast profits of the transnational corporations encountered opposition from Western "experts" and "advisers." Over 20,000 British and 7,000 Americans are now living in Nigerian economy -- the oil and chemical industries. Under the conditions of the oil glut of recent years, the Americans have taken a deliberately harsh position toward Nigeria, insofar as they have taken vengeance on Lagos for its implacable policy toward racist South Africa and for its cooperation with the frontline states. The IMF, which is under Washington's control, dictatorially demanded the devaluation of Nigeria's national currency, the naira, refusing to grant additional loans unless this condition was met.

As a result of all these intrigues by the monopolies, Nigeria's exports fell sharply, its state revenue was reduced, and its foreign debts reached $15 billion. Disregard for the interests of agricultural and food industry development for the sake of the "oil boom" transformed an agrarian country which previously was fully self-sufficient in food products into Africa's largest food importer. There was less and less money to pay for these imports. As a result of this the new budget, published by Shagari literally a few days before the coup, provided for a 40 percent cutback in imports and a 30 percent reduction in capital investments. This was the beginning of unrestrained price rises which caused an inflationary spiral. "Economists estimated that inflation in Lagos was running at 250 percent in 1983," the London journal AFRICAN BUSINESS wrote in its December issue. "In actual fact, though, it was considerably higher."

It is not surprising that the statements by Nigeria's present military leaders to explain the new government's goals to the people are dominated by questions linked to the solution of economic problems. According to Gen M. Buhari, whom the African press describes as a "convinced nationalist," the Armed Forces "made the decision to act in the interests of the starving and suffering people's masses, to curb the nouveaux riches who are shimming in luxury, and restore Nigeria's good name, which has been defiled by corruption, fraud, smuggling, and armed gangsterism."

For this purpose the military authorities have announced an investigation of a number of highly placed officials of Shagari's National Party, which is now proscribed, and his administration. Within 9 days of the coup, some 200 former civil servants in the capital and about the same number in the country's 19 states have already been arrested. An order has also been issued that all persons who have occupied elected or administrative posts in republic or regional instituions in the last 4 years should give themselves up to the police in order to determine whether they are guilty of illegal enrichment and misuse of their official position for selfish purposes. According to Lagos press reports, most of the former state governors, their deputies, ministers, and members of legislative organs have already been arrested.

The main "medicine" which could cure the country of its present financial illness is, according to people in Lagos, "measures of strict economy," "reliance on the country's own resources," and an increase in food production. One of the measures by the new authorities has been to order private traders to reduce the prices of food products, as a result of which the cost of many prime necessities has already been halved.

Touching on the principles of foreign policy, M. Buhari declared that attention will focus mainly on African problems and especially the questions of the continent's final decolonialization. He confirmed that Nigeria is ready to honor its international obligations, both bilateral and multilateral, and to continue to maintain relations with friendly countries on the basis of mutual respect, equality, and noninterference in one another's internal affairs.

ZIMBABWE PARLIAMENT EXTENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY

LD190717 Moscow TASS in English 0647 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Harare, January 19 TASS -- The parliament of the Republic of Zimbabwe has extended the state of emergency in the country for another six months. Explaining the measure, Simbi Mubako, minister of the interior, drew attention to the activity of bandit and sabotage groups which are infiltrated into the republic's territory from the racist-ruled Republic of South Africa. The intrigues, he said, are aimed at destabilising the situation in the country and at undermining peaceful national construction.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA: U.S. OPPOSES PEACE EFFORTS

LD201818 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; interview by correspondent Igor Fesunenko with Daniel Ortega, member of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Ortega identified by on screen caption; recorded in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Fesunenko] What are Nicaragua's proposals to normalize the situation in Central America, recently put forward by your country? I would also like to know what attitude the United States has to your proposals.

[Ortega] We have recently proposed a whole series of initiatives and concrete proposals aimed at normalizing the situation in Central America, settling relations between the states of the region and also normalizing relations between Nicaragua and the United States.

Our proposals provide for the creation of systems for mutual security in the region and ending the policy of aggression, and for the creation of conditions for a genuine relaxation in our region. Considering the fact that a popular, patriotic, revolutionary war is being waged in El Salvador, we also propose a path toward a political resolution of the situation in that country -- specifically a political solution and not a military solution of the El Salvador problem.

Nicaragua also submitted its proposals to the countries of the Contadora group. Our proposals were directly submitted to the United States during bilateral contacts with representatives of the U.S. Government, in particular with special Washington representatives and envoys Stone, Motley, and Kissinger. However, it must be said that there has been no reaction yet from the United States to our proposals.

From the very beginning, Nicaragua has supported the position of the Contadora Group countries. When these countries came to in Panama City with their plan for normalizing the situation, a plan consisting of 21 points, Nicaragua was first to support this program.

The United States says it supports the peace efforts of the Contadora Group, and at the same time sends its military squadrons to the shores of Central America. It is surrounding Nicaragua with its ships, setting up military bases in Honduras, and exerting pressure on the governments of other countries in our region to make them agree to a U.S. military presence on their territories.

All this, naturally, does not contribute to a peaceful solution of the Central America problem, all the more so since another $24 million has just been allocated to support the counterrevolutionaries and to create an atmosphere of tension around Nicaragua.

All these facts are evidence that the United States is opposing the peace efforts of the Contadora Group countries.

'Fraternal' Ties With USSR

LD211552 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Interview by correspondent Igor Fesunenko with Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the government of national reconstruction; recorded in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation -- date and place not specified]

[Text] [Fesunenko] Comrade Daniel Ortega, I would like to start our conversation with the following statement: the ringleaders of the counterrevolutionary bands made loud promises to seize power in Nicaragua and enter the country's capital, Managua, in December 1983. It is now January 1984. This confirms that plans of this kind are easier to make than to carry out. It is also known that at the beginning of December the counterrevolutionaries made another quite large incursion into Nicaragua from the north, from Honduran territory. What is the position now in the morthern part of the country, on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border?

[Ortega] Yes, you are right. In 1983 the counterrevolutionaries made several attacks on our country. All these incursions were carried out with the support of U.S. imperialism and under the direct guidance of the U.S. CIA. The last massive attacks by the counterrevolutionaries were indeed made in December with the aim of reaching Managua at the end of last year and seizing power. However, that bid met with failure as well. The actions of the counterrevolutionary forces again encountered a decisive rebuff from the Nicaraguan people who are defending the interests of the revolution. This, of course, does not mean that the counterrevolution has been finally broken or that it has abandoned its plans. Now the counterrevolutionaries have again retreated to Honduran territory. Evidently, they are regrouping their forces there and obtaining fresh instructions from the CIA, and then they will try and attack us again. But we can boldly assert that any new counterrevolutionary offensive will also be routed.

[Fesunenko] The world press, and in particular the U.S. press, has been voicing the idea that one of the chief objectives of the U.S. invasion of Grenada was to intimidate and break the morale of the Nicaraguan people. What is your view on this count?

[Ortega] The United States has been trying to intimidate Nicaragua from the very first days of our revolution's victory. This is done by the most varied ways and methods. With the coming to power of the Reagan administration, this policy of intimidation has become particularly intense. What else can be expected of the present U.S. Administration, which has centered its policy on frenzied anticommunism and the suppression of the national liberation movement in Central America? The aggression against Grenada was without undoubtedly one of the most perfidious and base crimes of imperialism. Of course that invasion had the objective of intimidating the Latin American peoples and intimidating the Nicaraguan people. Regarding Nicaragua, we can affirm that the effect achieved by the U.S. imperialists who invaded Nicaragua was directly opposite to the one they expected. The predatory attack on Grenada evoked the indignation and anger of the whole Nicaraguan people. This action confirmed that the United States has not abandoned its plans for a direct invasion of our country. We are doing everything in order to prepare for a possible attack, meet the enemy with all our weapons, rout him and decisively defeat the imperialist aggressor.

[Fesunenko] What are Nicaragua's proposals aimed at normalizing the situation in Central America that have been recently put forward by your country? I would also like to know what attitude the United States has to your proposals.

[Ortega] We have recently come out with a whole series of initiatives and specific proposals that have the aim of normalizing the situation in Central America, settling relations between the states of the region and also normalizing relations between Nicaragua and the United States.

Our proposals provide for the creation of systems for mutual security in the region and ending the policy of aggression and for the creation of conditions for a genuine relaxation of tension in our region. Also taking into consideration that a popular, patriotic, revolutionary war is being waged in El Salvador, we are proposing a path toward the political solution of the situation in that country -- specifically a political, and not a military resolution of the Salvadoran problem.

Nicaragua also submitted its proposals to the countries of the Contadora Group. Our proposals were directly communicated to the United States in the course of bilateral contacts with representatives of the U.S. Government, in particular with special Washington representatives and envoys Stone, Motley, and Kissinger. However, it must be stated that there has still been no reaction to our proposals from the United States.

Since the very beginning Nicaragua has supported the position of the Contadora countries, and when these countries came out in Panama City with their plan for normalizing the situation, a plan consisting of 21 points, Nicaragua was the first to support this program.

The United States says that it supports the peace efforts of the Contadora Group while at the same time it sends its military squadrons to the shores of Central America. It is surrounding Nicaragua with its ships, setting up military bases in Honduras, and exerting pressure on the governments of other countries of our region to make them agree to a U.S. military presence on their territories.

All this, naturally, does not contribute to a peaceful solution of the Central America problem, all the more so since another $24 million have only just been allocated to support the counterrevolutionaries and to create an atmosphere of tension around Nicaragua. All these facts are evidence that the United States is opposing the peace efforts of the Contadora Group countries.

[Fesunenko] Naturally, the conditions of an undeclared war by the United States against Nicaragua and U.S. economic sanctions are creating no few difficulties for the Nicaraguan people, causing large losses to the country's economy. What measures are being taken by the government to overcome those difficulties?

[Ortega] Yes, the damage caused to us by the United States and the terrorist groups they are sending last year alone came to $110 million. In addition, we have to strengthen our country's defense capacity comprehensively. We have been forced to take a series of measures to save fuel since our possibilities of acquiring it are highly limited. It has to be borne in mind that we are not an oil-producing country; we are forced to buy oil. I would like to stress that oil supplies to our country by sea are very complicated by the terrorist provocative actions of the CIA and the obstacles placed by the United States on the seaways. Many acts of sabotage were organized at points where fuel is discharged and on sea communications against ships that deliver oil to us. The CIA also organized sabotage at oil storage facilities. This effectively forces us to resort to economizing on fuel and limiting its consumption. We make fuel available first and foremost bearing in mind the interests of our country's defense. We also seek to provide for public transport, which is quite important for our economy. The people have understood the need to make maximum savings on fuel.

The Nicaraguan people are not lessening their vigilance. The people are ready to defend their motherland, every inch of their territory, every town, every village.

I would like to stress the great importance for us of the internationalist aid and fraternal solidarity shown by the peoples of other countries. They help us counter the terrorist policy of the United States.

[Fesunenko] We are now in 1984. For your country this year will be the fifth year of the revolution. Would you describe the ideas, hopes, and plans that your country and your people have on beginning this year, the fifth year of the Nicaraguan revolution?

[Ortega] Despite the aggression to which our country is being constantly subjected -- and we well understand that the policy of aggression is the fundamental political line of the United States with regard to Nicaragua -- we will bend every effort in order to continue to carry through the basic plans of our state policy, our social and economic policy. Naturally, in so doing we will be considering -- indeed, primarily -- the interests of strengthening our country's defense capacity, since providing for the country's security will enable us to fulfill the state plan in the economic and social spheres. We want the new year of 1984 to become a further step in carrying through the plans set by our revolution. I would like to point out that, despite the constant U.S. pressure and the provocations on the part of imperialism, last year our country achieved an increase in the gross national product of roughly 3 percent. And we would like to go beyond that figure in the new year of 1984.

[Fesunenko] I would like to hear your assessment of Soviet-Nicarguan relations.

[Ortega] I would like to point out that Soviet-Nicaraguan relations in all spheres are a model of relations between a great, mighty and developed country and a small developing state like Nicaragua. Soviet-Nicaraguan economic links represent a striking contrast to those inequitable relations within the international economic system to which Nicaragua was previously accustomed. This manifested itself, in particular, in the unfair high prices of goods that were bought by our country from other countries, and in the equally unfair low prices for goods that we sold to other states. Soviet-Nicaraguan relations can boldly be called fraternal, based on mutual respect; they are not limited by any conditions whatsoever.

This is particularly discernible against the background of the aggressive policy of the United States. While the United States is depriving us of credits for acquiring grain and foodstuffs, the Soviet Union was the first country to extend us a helping hand, providing our people with grain and foodstuffs. Now that U.S. imperialism is causing us enormous economic harm and placing the country's economy on the brink of disaster, refusing to supply us with essential raw material for our industry, the Soviet Union is displaying fraternal solidarity, providing all-round assistance in the development of our economy, supplying raw materials and foodstuffs, and this helps us overcome the difficulties created by imperialism.

I would again repeat that in all spheres -- political, economic and others -- relations between the USSR and Nicaragua are truly exemplary, equal and fraternal.

[Fesunenko] Allow me to thank you for the interview and to wish you, personally, and the whole Nicaraguan people and your country great success in the new year of 1984 which, as is known, is the 50th anniversary of the death of the national hero, Sandino.

[Ortega] Yes. This year we will mark the 50th anniversary of the death of Sandino. We do not consider that Sandino died. His ideas continue to live and help the struggle of the Nicaraguan people, the struggle of the Latin American peoples. Sandino's ideas served as the foundation for the establishment of fraternal friendship between the peoples of Nicaragua and the Soviet people. These fraternal relations are manifested on all levels, in relations between the parties and in interstate relations. We always have a sense of complete understanding on the part of the Soviet leadership and in particular on the part of Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov with whom we had the opportnuity of meeting and talking.

CONTADORA GROUP PEACE INITIATIVES LAUDED

LD222120 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Jan 84

[From the "International Panorama" Program; by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] The conversion of Central America into one of the planet's hot spots cannot fail to alarm the Latin American public, particularly in the countries neighboring the conflict zones, such as Mexico in the north, and Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama in the South.

Last year, representatives of these four states met on the Panamanian island of Contadora, and they have become known as the Contadora Group. They offered their mediation in solving the region's problems. As a result of a series of meetings of nine foreign ministers, i.e. four from the Contadora Group and five from other Central American states -- Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica -- an accord was reached on the basic principles of a peace settlement in Central America.

At the recent January meeting in Panama, a document was adopted, setting out a time-table for the practical implementation of these principles. The Contadora Group achieved these results primarily because its efforts as an intermediary found a constructive response from Nicaragua. Among the republic's peace initiatives are a proposal to conclude a nonaggression pact with Honduras and to cease arms deliveries to the combatant sides in El Salvador and military support for any antigovernment forces in the region; not to build foreign military bases in Central America; and not to hold maneuvers there with the participation of foreign armies.

It would seem that there can be no justification, after all this, to rant about the alleged export of revolution, or the Cuban-Soviet threat to the national security of the United States. But the point is that peace in Central America would be a hindrance to exporting counterrevolution. And, so, not openly daring to oppose the mediation of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama, Washington is gradually trying to turn their efforts into a channel beneficial to itself, i.e. to use the Contadora process to force on Nicargua the idea of a so-called national reconciliation. This idea can be read between the lines in the report of the Kissinger commission on Central America that was recently published. Its authors make it crystal clear that the undeclared war against Nicaragua, which aims to cause the people's power to collapse, will continue. But it is alleged that it will be stopped, and the republic will even receive generous U.S. aid, if the Sandinistas agree to sit down with representatives of the counter-Revolutionary groups that have been expelled from the country, in other words, to share power with them.

U.S. PLANS FOR HONDURAN BASE CALLED 'HINDRANCE'

LD221115 Moscow TASS in English 0823 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] San Jose January 22 TASS -- The Pentagon is going to set up a major American-Honduran military base in the territory of Honduras, according to reports reaching here. General Alvarez, chieftain of the Honduran military, disclosed that the base, which will cost the United States 160 million dollars to build, will be located in the area of the town of Puerto Castilla on the Atlantic coast. As is known, it is near that town that a so-called regional training centre has been established, at which American servicemen are training Salvador commandos in anti-guerrilla warfare techniques.

Managua January 22 TASS -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has issued a statement saying that the plans of building an American-Honduran military base in Honduras are a hindrance to efforts by the "Contadora Group" to achieve a peaceful settlement in Central America. The United States, the statement said, is still banking on armed force in resolving the Central American problem. This approach is manifest in the massive military aid granted by the Reagan administraiton to Honduras whose territory is being used as a staging area for continued acts of aggression against sovereign Nicaragua. //

CHILEAN COMMUNIST LEADER CALLS NATIONWIDE STRIKE

PY220100 Moscow in Spanish To Latin America 2300 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Statement by Orlando Millas, leader of the Chilean Communist Party]

[Text] The mass struggle being waged by the Chilean people against the tyranny of Pinochet is creating conditions for asserting great democratic claims representing important national objectives, as well as high hopes among the overwhelming majority of the population. The truth of these claims is obvious in view of the tragic experience of 10 years of fascist rule. In Santiago, the Chilean Communist Party has made a call, which has had broad repercussions, proposing that the struggle and mobilization, which are gaining momentum, be directed at staging a nationwide strike this coming March. This is one of the aspects of the popular struggle.

The nationwide strike is to affect industries, mining, and all ecoomic activities in the country. It should also involve intermediary activities, such as commerce, transport, truckers, drivers, taxicabs, interurban transportation, professional activities in general, etc. This should be accompanied by the mobilization of the masses, particularly in the large suburban neighborhoods that nave become the strongholds of the antifascist struggle, and generalized insurgency and civil disobedience to resist he tyranny.

In 1982, after concentrated actions, which gathered strength among the masses, the Chilear Communist Party called upon the people to move to the next phase by promoting marches against hunger, thus bringing about some fundamental changes. In 1983 in a joint action with all the opposition forces, the Chilean Communist Party proposed, based on a call from the Copper Workers Confederation, holding days of national protest. Now, with a call for a nationwide strike another step forward will be taken, to give a boost to the antifascist forces' march in Chile.

The call for a national strike has been considered for some time by mass organizations and among the simple people. It should now be realized.

ADVANTAGES OF SOVIET ELECTION SYSTEM VIEWED

LD221319 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Diary of the election campaign: Preparations for elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet are now in full swing.

The course of the election campaign is the subject of a commentary by Vsevolod Ivanovich Vasilyev, doctor of juridical sciences:

[Vasilyev] The election campaign involves work on a huge scale, in which millions of voters, mass public organizations, state organs at all levels take part. Only one day is set aside for voting, and a very great deal has to be done so that on that day each of us is able to vote in peace for our candidate. Here I mean the organizational and technical provision for the election campaign.

Somehow we have long been used to the fact that everything will be done in time; we accept this as our due, and do not always ponder the essence and order by which the state takes upon itself a large share of the tasks involved in organizational and technical provision for elections. Indeed it is in this, too, that the profound democratism of our electoral system manifests itself. The constitution and law concerning elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet state that all expenses connected with the holding of elections are paid for by the state. Thus, the state grants material guarantees for participation at all stages of the election campaign, both for voters and candidates for deputies. Public organizations and workers' collectives, the law says, are granted premises for gatherings and meetings, and also the means of mass information for conducting election campaigning, free of charge. Every citizen is guaranteed the right to participate in this campaigning. It cannot be otherwise for a state which is the embodiment of people's power and is in charge of people's property. It is just for this reason that all material means necessary in the organization of the election campaign are in the hands of the common state of all the people. Each of its citizens has a really equal opportunity to use them actually to take part in both the preparations for elections and in the voting.

The advantages of our elections are particularly obvious in comparison with elections in capitalist countries. There, candidates for deputies spend immense sums. More often than not this gives rise to corruption, bribing of officials and voters. Opportunities for representatives of workers' sections of the population to get into parliament are sharply limited. A graphic example of this is the recent so-called midterm elections in the United States. These took place in 1982, when a third of the Senate and the entire House of Representatives were re-elected. As is borne out by the U.S. press itself, the elections cost congressmen a tidy sum of $900 million. Each of 10 Republican senators spend on average $1.7 million. It is clear that such sums cannot be afforded by urban or rural workers, by virture of whose labor America lives. It is not surprising that not a single one of them entered the list of candidates for congress.

The theory concerning the so-called free election in Western countries, which is propagandized in every way possible by the apologetics of capitalism, is false and hypocritical through and through. In fact freedom here is guaranteed only to a bag of money. Also, for the rulers of the business world both in the United States and in other bourgeois countries, there is advantage in the order by which candidates for parliament have to take upon themselves election expenses. In this way it is simply easier in the elections to both chambers of congress contributions from firms and individual owners amount to up to 95 percent of election expenses. Formally, such financing is prohibited.

However, the dollar is all-powerful. The noise and fuss of the election battle does not hinder it from getting into Congress those people who are prepared to serve big business loyally.

It is only in socialist countries that working people can, in a calm and business-like atmosphere, elect their true representatives to organs of state power at all levels, including the supreme organs of power.

HEATING ACCIDENT HALTS TRAFFIC ON MOSCOW SUBWAY

LD201759 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- A break-down of the heat-supply system that developed in the square of the Kiev railway terminal in Moscow on Thursday afternoon has been repaired. A leakage of warm water took place there. Along underwater headers water reached the Fili section of the Moscow underground.

Traffic was halted for several hours on the stretch between the "Kalininskaya" and "Bagrationovskaya" underground stations. The broadcasting of the announcement about this for passengers was immediately started on the underground's communication system. Numerous buses were provided so that Muscovites returning from work could get home.

Emergency repair teams of the break-down service immediately arrived on the spot where the break-down had developed. They shut off the water and started pumping it from flooded sections. Several houses were cut from the heat-supply system as a result of the break-down. Due to energetic measures taken promptly normal traffic in the underground was restored from ten hours p.m. on Thursday.

It was learnt from "Mosenergo" that the supply of heat and hot water to the buildings situated close to the area of the break-down will be resumed this evening.

MORE OBLAST PARTY CONFERENCES REPORTED

Alma-Ata Oblast, Others

PM191641 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 January 1984 First Edition publishes on page 2 under the rubric "Party Life: At Oblast Conferences" a 1,500-word report by correspondents G. Kasenov and A. Petrushov entitled "Time Obliges" on an Alma-Ata Oblast party conference, at which the report was delivered by Obkom First Secretary K. Aukhadiyev. The report includes the following information:

"The conference delegates were addressed by D.A. Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee.

"An organizational plenum was held. It elected K.M. Aukhadiyev first secretary of Alma-Ata Obkom."

This is followed by a 1,500-word report by special correspondents V. Danilov and V. Lisin entitled "Increasing the Pace" on a Tyumen Oblast party conference, at which the report was delivered by Obkom First Secretary G. Bogomyakov. The account of the conference states: "An obkom plenum was held. G.P. Bogomyakov was elected first secretary of Tyumen Obkom."

This in turn is followed by an unattributed report which states:

"Party conferences have been held in a number of other oblasts and autonomous republics. At plenums the following were elected obkom first secretaries: B.S. Kevorkov of Nagorno-Karabakh Obkom, N.E. Mustafayev of Nakhichevan Obkom, V.G. Klyuyev of Ivanovo Obkom, M.Yu. Yusupov of Dagestan Obkom, I.P. Bespalov of Kirov Obkom, Yu.N. Balandin of Kostroma Obkom, V.K. Gusev of Saratov Obkom, P.I. Tretyakov of Sakhalin Obkom, V.Ye. Odintsov of North Osetian Obkom, T.K. Malbakhov of Kabardino-Balkar Obkom, I.Kh Yunak of Tula Obkom, A.V. Vlasov of Chechen-Ingush Obkom, I.P. Prokopyev of Chuvash Obkom, Yu.N. Prokopyev of Yakut Obkom, Z.S. Kovalchuk of Volyn Obkom, K. Kamalov of Kara-Kalpak Obkom, N.R. Radzhabov of Namangan Obkom, R. Ashuraliyev of Samarkand Obkom, and I. Dzhabbarov of Bukhara Obkom."

Pskov Oblast

PM181202 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 January 1984 First Edition carries on page 2 a 1,600-word report entitled "The Strength of the Party's Word" by special correspondents B. Lazarev and U. Shakutin. The report, datelined Pskov Oblast and carried under the "Reports and Elections" rubric, describes speeches delivered at the 19th Pskov Oblast party conference, including the report by "Obkom First Secretary A.M. Rybakov." SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA does not state whether or not the obkom first secretary was reelected.

Moscow Oblast

LD202206 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; video report on Moscow Oblast party conference, showing presidium and delegates, and Konotop at rostrum]

[Text] The 25th conference of the Moscow Oblast party organization opened today in Moscow in the Hall of Columns of the House of the Unions. In the presidium there were Comrades Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Grishin, Solomentsev, Ustinov, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, and Ryzhkov. They were warmly greeted by the participants: party, soviet, and economic activists; production innovators; leading workers; scientists; cosmonauts; workers of culture; and party and labor veterans.

The delegates enthusiastically elected the honorary presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. On the agenda, there is a report from the Moscow Oblast CPSU Committee and the tasks of the oblast party organization that stem from the decisions of December 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the theses and conclusions contained in Yuriy Vladimirovich Andoprov's speech.

Delivering the summary report, Comrade Konotop, first secretary of CPSU Moscow Committee, noted that during the completed period the oblast party organization, which had consisted of half of a million communists, has become stronger. In the oblast, there are presently more than 6,900 primary and almost 12,000 shop party organizations, and about 22,000 party groups. In accordance with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee, in the reporting period, the oblast, city, and rayon committees of the party have striven to assert in thepractice of their work a businesslike, creative style of party leadership directed at ensuring the unity of organizational, ideological-educational, and economic activity. We presently find ourselves in the key position of the 5-year plan, said Comrade Konotop in conclusion.

About 2,000 oblast labor collectives have already committed themselves to overplan growth in labor productivity of not less than 1 percent, and 1,480 collectives to lowering the production costs by additional half a percent. This movement will undoubtedly help the working people of the Moscow area to fulfill successfully the tasks for 1984. The conference will continue its work on 21 January.

KOMSOMOL CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS IN MOSCOW

PM191334 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 84 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Sixth Komsomol Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The Sixth Komsomol Central Committee plenum was held in Moscow 16 January 1984 and discussed the following questions:

1. The tasks of Komsomol organizations arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the provisions and conclusions contained in the speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

2. A report on the work of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat since the Fifth Komsomol Central Committee Plenum.

The report "On the Tasks of Komsomol Organizations Arising From the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the Provisions and Conclusions Contained in the Speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, Ceneral Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee," was delivered by V.M. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee.

Participating in the discussion of the report were: S.V. Sarafanov, tool maker at the Likhachev Truck Plant; V.I. Matviyenko, first secretary of the Leningrad Komsomol Obkom; B. Allamuradov, first secretary of the Uzbek Komsomol Central Committee; A.N. Tsaregorodtsev, first secretary of the Sverdlovsk Komsomol Obkom; P.M. Trivaylo, senior scientific staffer of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Strength Problems; N.N. Mazay, first secretary of the Belorussian Komsomol Central Committee; O.A. Donichev, first secretary of the Vladimir Komsomol Obkom; N.N. Savina, milking machine operator of the Voronovo Sovkhoz in Moscow Oblast's Podolskiy Rayon; K.Zh. Amanbayev, first secretary of the Karaganda Kazakh Komsomol Obkom; A.N. Dolya, engine driver at the Tynda Locomotive Depot on the Baykal-Amur Main Railroad; V.B. Chekhonin, first secretary of the Karelian Komsomol Obkom; N.I. Shevchenko, assembly worker at the Elektrometallurgstroy Construction and Installation Production Association at Staryy Oskol in Belgorod Oblast; Zh.K.-B. Charyyeva, first secretary of the Turkmen Komsomol Central Committee; G.N. Sudakov, machine operator on the 40 Let Oktyabrya Kolkhoz in Saratov Oblast's Krasnokutskiy Rayon; V.G. Lordkipanidze, first secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee; S.Ye. Marin, first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Komsomol Obkom; L.D. Meykshane, tailoress at Riga's Latviya Knitwear Production Association; V.A. Kurbatov, first secretary of the Tomsk Komsomol Obkom; D.P. Visnapuu, first secretary of the Estonian Komsomol Central Committee; and E.M. Sagalayev, chief editor of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting Chief Desk for Broadcasting to Young People.

The Plenum adopted a resolution on the question under discussion.

The report on the work of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat since the Fifth Komsomol Central Committee Plenum was delivered by L.I. Shvetsova, Komsomol Central Committee secretary.

The plenum elected N.N. Mazay, first secretary of the Belorussian Komsomol Central Committee, candidate member of the Komsomol Central Committee bureau.

A group of Komsomol workers was awarded Komsomol Honor badges for their considerable work in young people's communist education.

Participating in the work of the Sixth Komsomol Central Committee Plenum were: A.D. Dmitriyev and I.K. Kapustyan, deputy chiefs of CPSU Central Committee Departments; V.P. Komogorov, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Departments; V.N. Ginko, first deputy minister of railways; V.V. Beletskiy, deputy minister of the Maritime Fleet; Academician A.Yu. Ishlinskiy, chairman of the All-Union Council of Scientific and Technical Societies; Ye.I. Tyurin, chairman of the All-Union Society of Inventors and Rationalizers Central Committee; executives of the CPSU Central Committee and of ministries and departments; representatives of public organizations; first secretary of union republic Komsomol Central Committees and Komsomol kraykoms and obkoms; assistant chiefs in charge of Komsomol work of the political directorates and political Departments of military and border districts, fleets, and groups of forces not belonging to the Komsomol's central elected organs; and press, TV, and radio workers.

OBKOM, KRAYKOM CONFERENCE ABILITIES VIEWED

PM181609 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "What the Obkom Can Do"]

[Text] Let us note at once that an obkom or kraykom is capable of a great deal. Life constantly confirms this, cogently proving how great is the role of vigorous and competent party leadership at local level. The time which has elapsed since the 26th CPSU Congress has enriched kraykoms and obkoms with considerable new experience, which they have brought to the latest report and election conferences. The serious and thorough analysis of achievements and shortcomings developed during the discussion helps in drawing the correct conclusions for future work.

Each oblast and each kray is a complex socioeconomic organism that is inseparable from the country as a whole and resolves its share of all-union tasks. As the reports and speeches at the conferences testify, the results of the measures taken by the party to improve our management, increase organization, and strengthen state, labor, and plan discipline are perceptible everywhere. And there is unanimous support everywhere for the idea that Comrade Yu.V. Andropov addressed to the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum: "The most important thing now is not to lose the tempo that has been gained and the general positive mood for action and to develop positive processes more actively."

Proceeding from this instruction, delegates of oblast and kray conferences are persistently seeking out reserves whose mobilization will help even more rapid progress. Lack of complacency about what has been achieved, a striving for greater achievements, and close attention to the most topical problems set by the time -- these are the indispensable conditions for further improving matters.

Questions of party leadership of the economy are the focus of attention for the conferences. The situation in industry and construction and the implementation of the Food and Energy Programs are being comprehensively examined. The course toward the intensification of social production and the improvement of work efficiency and quality lays many obligations on each party organization. In fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum, a number of krays and oblasts were able to a significant extent to make up the lag permitted in the first 2 years of the 5-year plan. However, the existing possibilities are not being utilized everywhere.

This is why it is necessary to investigate more deeply who is not working at full capacity and why, and how to improve the weak links and eliminate the lag.

The party sets the task of achieving an increase in labor productivity of at least 1 percent in excess of the plan and an additional reduction in output prime cost of 0.5 percent. The experience of leading collectives attests that this is perfectly realistic. People everywhere must be organized to fulfill the increased pledges.

The chief sociopolitical goal of our plans is to improve the people's living standard. This tenet must be an unshakable law in the daily activity of each obkom and kraykom. Their prime obligation is to persistently increase the return on resources channeled into the development of agriculture and the whole agro-industrial complex in order to fully solve the problems of supplying the population with food products. The saturation of the market with the necessary industrial goods remains an urgent task. Discussion at the conferences shows that the shortcomings in trade and the services sphere must be eliminated more rapidly.

An important question is how to improve ideological and mass political work in line with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum. Recently, oblast and kray party organizations have done a great deal to ensure that people's education is made a real priority. The reorientation of ideological activity toward real practical tasks is being carried out increasingly perceptibly and the close unity of ideological activity and economic and organizational work is being increasingly ensured. However, this process is not proceeding with due intensiveness everywhere. There are instances of a superficial approach to education, the special features of various categories and groups of the population are sometimes not considered, and there is not enough assertiveness in the struggle against negative phenomena. There is much to be done in connection with the reform of general educational and technical schools.

The party attaches special significance to improving the style and methods of leadership. The emphasis is on improving cadres' responsibility and increasing the level of organization and efficiency. Stavropol Kraykom, Moscow, Leningrad, and Tomsk Obkoms, and many other obkoms have reduced the number of sessions and conferences, especially on questions which have to be resolved on a day-to-day basis and do not require collective discussion. The number of times that leaders and aktiv members are called away during worktime is being limited. The flow of official papers is being reduced. This enables cadres to get away from day-to-day affairs, to analyze cardinal problems more, to consider future prospects, and to organize monitoring.

And yet the force of inertia is still great. The mania for meetings and the paperwork methods of leadership substantially obstruct matters. A serious defect in the style of work of certain obkoms until recently was the adoption of a large number of resolutions and the poor verification of their execution. Decisions are sometimes unspecific in nature, duplicate each other, and naturally do not guarantee the requisite result. The conclusion is obvious: Discipline of execution must be tightened up everywhere. Execution and concrete action must follow decisionmaking without fail.

For example, in Dzhezkazgan and other cities of Dzhezkazgan Oblast the question of housing construction is acute. There are many shortcomings and omissions and the targets are often not met. And what about the obkom? It would appear not to be staying on the sidelines. The party obkom bureau examined progress in housing contruction four times last year. But the plan was still not fulfilled. P. Dolgov, excavator operator at the Zhayrem Mining and Enriching Combine, rightly said from the platform of the oblast party conference: "How many decisions is it possible to make? How many staffs must be created in order to fulfill our own resolution?"

The conferences provide party committees with a good impetus for future actions. The newly elected obkoms and kraykoms have intensive and multifaceted work ahead. And the success of this work will be assisted by close consideration of communists' ideas, proposals, and criticisms.

MOLDAVIAN SUPREME SOVIET OPENING REPORTED

PM181507 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 7 Jan 84 p 1

[ATEM report: "Implementing the Party's Plan"]

[Text] The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum, the provisions and conclusions contained in the plenum speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the materials of the 9th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, have become an extensive action program for the Moldavian SSR's working people, as for the whole of Soviet people. At the preelection meetings, which are taking place everywhere the republic's working people are stating their determination to implement their dear party's plans.

The 8th session of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, opened in Kishinev 6 January.

Comrades P.V. Voronin, S.K. Grossu, G.I. Yeremey, Ye.P. Kalenik, I.P. Klain, N.V. Merenishchev, P.P. Petrik, B.N. Savochko, G.A. Stepanov, I.G. Ustiyan, G.M. Volkov, G.G. Dygay, and V.K. Kittenko were greeted with continuous applause from the deputies.

The session was opened by P.P. Botsu, chairman of the republic Supreme Soviet.

Deputy Ye.M. Karayon, chairman of the Credentials Commission, delivered the commission's report on the results of the election of a new deputy. The Supreme Soviet adopted a corresponding resolution in line with the Credentials Commission's report.

The Supreme Soviet unanimously approved the following agenda:

1. On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984 and the preliminary results of the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR in 1983.

2. On the Moldavian SSR State Budget for 1984 and the implementation of the Moldavian SSR State Budget in 1982.

3. On the ratification of Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet presidium decrees and a report on the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's activity in 1983.

The session examined an organizational question.

A decision was adopted to relieve deputy V.M. Yukin from his duties as chairman of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet housing, Municipal, and consumer services Commission on his appointment as Moldavian SSR minister of consumer services.

The Supreme Soviet elected deputy V.M. Iovv, first secretary of the Beltsy Gorkom, as chairman of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Housing, Municipal, and Consumer Services commission and relieved him of his duties as a member of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Credentials Commissio..

A decision was adopted to relieve deputy G.I. Kushnir of his duties as a member of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Consumer Goods and Trade Commission on his appointment as chairman of the Moldavian SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

The Supreme Soviet elected Deputy V.K. Pleshku, assistant leader of a team of grapegrowers at the Zubreshty Sovkhoz-Plant in Strashenskiy Rayon, a member of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Credentials Commission.

Deputy I.S. Oborochanu, leader of a team of grapegrowers on the Lenin Kolkhoz in Chimishliyskiy Rayon, was elected a member of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Consumer Goods and Trade Commission.

Deputy V.G. Kutyrkin, deputy chairman of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Moldavian SSR Gosplan, delivered a report "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984 and the Preliminary Results of the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR in 1983."

Deputy I.A. Savvin, Moldavian SSR finance minister, delivered a report "On the Moldavian SSR State Budget for 1984 and the Implementation of the Moldavian SSR State Budget in 1982."

Deputy A.S. Vorotilo, chairman of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Plan and Budget Commission, then delivered the coreport of the Plan and Budget Commission and other Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet standing commissions "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984 and the Preliminary Results of the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social development of the Moldavian SSR in 1983, the SSR Moldavian State budget for 1984, and the implementation of the Moldavian SSR State Budget in 1982."

A group of Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet deputies made a request to deputy G.M. Zhitnyuk, the republic's minister of the light industry, for information on the measures being taken by the ministry to increase the production of children's goods and improve their quality.

The Supreme Soviet included this request on the session's agenda and instructed deputy G.M. Zhitnyuk, Moldavian SSR light industry minister, to make a report.

The following spoke in the debates: deputy V.K. Pshenichnikov, second secretary of the Kishinev Gorkom; Deputy F.M. Maksim, chairman of the Novoanenskiy Rayispolkom; Deputy B.P. Terekhov, Moldavian SSR minister of the furniture and wood processing industry; Deputy V.M. Iovv, first secretary of the Beltsy Gorkom; Deputy Ye.K. Bolokan, leader of a team of electrical instrument fitters at the Soroksiy Technical Equipment Plant; Deputy V.I. Grek, first deputy chairman of the Moldavian SSR Council of Sovkhozes; Deputy P.S. Kozhkukhar, first secretary of the Rezinskiy Raykom; deputy M.G. Spravedlivya, production chief of the public catering trust's Canteen No 30 in Kishinev's Leninskiy Rayon; Deputy V.I. Glebov, first secretary of the Tarakliyskiy Raykom; Deputy I.S. Bolnat, Moldavian SSR minister of highway construction and maintenance deputy I.M. Dobrovolskiy, director of the Tiraspol Elektromash Plant; Deputy O.V. Bykova, Moldavian SSR minister of social security; Deputy M.G. Gasnash, link operator at Lazovskiy Rayon's Novo-Synzhereyskiy Heifer-Raising Complex; Deputy M.K. Pashaly, chairman of the Chadyr-Lungskiy Rayon Council of Sovkhozes; Deputy M.Ya. Teleshko, instrument controller at the Kaushanskiy Cannery's sterilization shop; Deputy V.M. Fomin, Moldavian SSR minister of motor transport; Deputy V.A. Babenko, carpet maker at the association of folk crafts' Orgeyevskiy Carpet Factory; Deputy V.V. Runkovskiy, first secretary of the Kamenskiy Raykom; and Deputy A.P. Kara, leader of a tractor team at Bessarbaskiy Rayon's Druzhba Sovkhoz-Plant.

The Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet session is continuing its work today.

Session Continues

PM191604 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 8 Jan 84 p 1

[ATEM report: "Eighth Session of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation"]

[Text] The 8th session of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, continued its work 7 January. Comrades P.V. Voronin, S.K. Grossu, G.I. Yeremey, Ye.P. Kalenik, I.P. Kalin, N.V. Merenishchev, P.P. Petrik, B.N. Savochko, G.A. Stepanov, I.G. Ustiyan, G.M. Volkov, and V.K. Kiktenko were greeted with applause by those present.

Deputy P.P. Botsu, chairman of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet, was in the chair.

The session continued discussing the reports "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984 and the Preliminary Results of the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR in 1983" and "On the Moldavian SSR State Budget for 1984 and the Execution of the Moldavian SSR State Budget in 1982."

The following spoke in the debates: Deputy I.K. Urzika, first secretary of the Grigoriopolskiy Raykom; Deputy M.G. Dumbravan, chairman of the Ryshkanskiy Rayon's Kirov Kolkhoz; and Deputy V.N. Oleksich, Moldavian SSR minister of land reclamation and water resources.

A proposal to bring the debates on the first and second agenda items to a close was unanimously accepted.

Deputy V.G. Kutyrkin, deputy chairman of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Moldavian SSR Gosplan, delivered the closing speech "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984 and the Preliminary Results of the Fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR in 1983."

The Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted the Moldavian SSR Law on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984 and a resolution on the preliminary results of the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR in 1983.

Deputy I.A. Savvin, Moldavian SSR finance minister, delivered the closing speech on the second item: "On the Moldavian SSR State Budget for 1984 and the Execution of the Moldavian SSR State Budget in 1982."

The session unanimously adopted the Moldavian SSR Law on the Moldavian SSR State Budget for 1984 and a Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet resolution approving the report on the execution of the Moldavian SSRState Budget in 1982.

Deputy A.V. Melnik, secretary of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, delivered the report on the third item -- "On the Approval of Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decrees and the Report on the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's Activity in 1983."

The session adopted relevant laws and resolutions.

Deputy G.M. Zhitnyuk, Moldavian SSR light industry minister, delivered a briefing in response to an enquiry by Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet deputies.

A resolution on the enquiry by Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet deputies was adopted.

With that the 8th session of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, concluded its work.

AGITPROP FOREIGN POLICY ROLE EXPLAINED

PM190937 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 January 1984 First Edition front-pages a 1,100-word editorial entitled "Addressing the Voters." It deals with the tasks of agitprop workers in the runup to the USSR Supreme Soviet elections and includes the following paragraph:

"Soviet people are building a new, communist society. Our successes are well know. However, they are plainly not to the liking of imperialist forces. Through the fault of American imperialism there has been a serious exacerbation of the international situation. It is necessary to show convincingly the truly titanic work which the Communist Party and the Soviet state are doing to preserve peace and prevent a nuclear catastrophe."

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 January Second Edition also front-pages a 1,000-word editorial entitled "Election Agitation and Propaganda" on the same topic as the PRAVDA editorial. It includes the following paragraph:

"Special attention must be paid in agitprop work among Army and Navy personnel, workers, and employees to explaining Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statements of 28 September and 24 November 1983, which made a principled assessment of the present U.S. Administration's aggressive policy and expressed the Soviet people's unshakable will to defend socialism's gains and to preserve and strengthen peace. It is important to use concrete facts to expose imperialism's reactionary, aggressive essence and the antipopular nature and falsity of bourgeois democracy and to show most fully the advantages of our Soviet way of life and of our socialist democracy."

BRIEFS

KIROVAKAN GORKOM PLENUM -- The Kirovakan Gorkom Plenum reviewed organizational issues. G. A. Oganyan was elected first secretary of Korovakan City Party Committee, M. A. Mirzoyan was elected second secretary, and N. A. Griogryan was elected secretary. [Text] [Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 24 Dec 83 p 2 GF]

NEW SOVIET ECONOMIC EXPERIMENT EVALUATED

PM191312 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Beginning the Experiment"]

[Text] At the beginning of the year a large-scale economic experiment began in five industries. The ultimate goal is to accelerate the transition to intensive methods of economic management, to step up production growth rates, and to improve the qualitative indicators of industry's work. And for this purpose the rights of production associations and enterprises are being expanded in planning and economic activity, their responsibility for the end results of work is being enhanced, and conditions are being created for the all-round development of people's creative initiative.

Assessing the role and importance of the experiment which is being conducted in developing the economy, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted in his speech to the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum: "Specific forms of management and planning must accord with the real conditions of each stage of the country's social development. That is an objective natural law which, quite understandably, no one can alter or repeal. That is why the improvement of the system of management on the basis of the principles of democratic centralism is a component of the overall process of improving our social system."

The production collectives of five different industries -- two union ministries and three republican ones -- are taking part in the large-scale experiment. New methods of economic management are being rehearsed in associations and at enterprises of heavy and transportation machine building, the electrical equipment industry, and the food industry in the Ukraine, light industry in Belorussia, and local industry in Lithuania. This selection of ministries makes it possible to consider more precisely and to work out sectorial features of management, planning, and economic incentives for people under the new conditions and thus enter the 12th 5-Year Plan with a well organized mechanism of economic management for industry as a whole.

Many associations and enterprises of the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry have prepared skillfully for the new conditions of economic management and an organized beginning to the experiment. For instance, the Moscow Zavod Imeni Vladimira Ilicha Association has established closer business contacts with its territorial supply organ -- the Moscow City Main Supply Administration. A joint conference here examined in detail questions of mutual commitments for the enterprise's comprehensive supply and the sale of output. A large amount of work has been done at the Leningrad Elektrosila Association. Mutual relations between raw material suppliers and clients have been strengthened and put in order. An increase in production is planned without increasing metal expenditure. Large-scale measures have been carried out to improve workplaces and to organize labor in shops and the plant administration services. The improvement of wages for technologists and designers at Elektrosila has made it possible right at the start of the experiment to reduce the number of specialists by 130. Many Lithuanian local industry enterprises at which the experiment is being conducted are being bolder in expanding the range of goods they produce, are introducing more byproducts and local raw material resources into production, and are improving the quality of items.

At the same time the transition to new conditions of economic management is not proceeding smoothly wherever the experiment is being conducted.

A number of enterprises have failed to balance output plans against supply plans. For instance, funds for many types of chemical raw material have been issued to Lithuanian local industry enterprises only for the first 6 months of the year. Enterprise's equipment requirements are being fully satisfied.

The sectors which have begun to implement the large-scale experiment are daily linked with hundreds of plants -- suppliers of raw material and consumers of their output -- which are not yet carrying out the experiment but are working in the old way. That creates many difficulties. Much can be done here by the sectorial ministries and USSR Gossnab organs centrally and locally. It is important to place under special control the fulfillment of deliveries plans not only in associations working under the experiment's conditions but also in associated enterprises of other sectors. The rail transportation workers are called on to play a large role in the success of the matter. Their main concern, as the decision adopted by the Ministry of Railways indicates, is to deliver rolling stock to enterprises' sidings promptly and fully and to fulfill shipment plans on time.

To step up the tempo of labor productivity growth it is essential to raise the technical improvement of workplaces to a new level, to give every encouragement to the combination of professions, and to introduce robot technology complexes more boldly. The experiment's conditions give leaders more extensive rights in using production development funds. But these opportunities will be implemented successfully only if the construction trusts employed in retooling the enterprises sharply improve their work. The implementation of the large-scale experiment requires that all economic management be raised to a new level. The sector staffs and the apparatuses of the all-union industrial associations are called on to resolve all questions without red tape, promptly and responsibly. Autonomous financing, which must also be introduced more boldly into the management sphere, will help matters.

The success of the large-scale experiment is in the hands of every participant in production and management. The profound importance of the strategic aims and all features of work under the new conditions and the clear moral and economic interest in fulfilling the projected measures will ensure the effective work of the sectors and enterprises paving the way for the new approach. The organizational and ideological work of the party committees, trade union and Komsomol organizations, and economic leaders must be aimed at forming in people a sense of high responsibility for the affairs of their collectives and for the end results of their work. It is important to train people to administer skillfully, relying primarily on the best experience and their own initiative and not only on orders from above, instructions, and directions.

A daily quest for ever newer reserves, all-around support for people's initiative and enterprise, and the development of mass competition for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of plans will help innovators to achieve good results in implementing the economic experiment and to fulfill successfully the targets for this year and the entire 11th 5-Year Plan.

Implications Viewed

PM191553 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 January 1984 First Edition carries on page 2 under the rubric "The Economic Experiment" a 2,000-word report by special correspondent N. Tyurin entitled "Scope for Questing" about the implications of the economic experiment for Moscow Oblast's Elektrostaltyazhmash Association.

The author explains that there will be fewer economic indicators determined by the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building in the enterprises' plans and only the main targets will be planned centrally. Apart from that, the ministry will authorize a system of economic normatives and limits on the basis of which enterprises must work out the wage fund and funds for development, material incentives, sociocultural measures, and scientific and technical progress. Tighter controls will apply to deliveries of supplies -- it will no longer be possible to lay out material and technical resources "in advance". Not only the economic machinery, but intersector relations will have to be improved, the author notes.

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian carries on the same day on page 2 a 1,500-word article by V. Korenev, director of the Smolensk Incandescent Lamp Plant, entitled "Difficulties at the Starting Line: A Director's Thoughts About the Beginning of the Economic Experiment." Having said a few words of approval and noted that the experiment will depend largely on labor collectives themselves, Korenev goes on to list a number of problems created by the experiment:

First -- There is the new wage normative under which his workers stand to lose. So far, the plant has been able to overcome a shortage of manpower by operating the leader whereby a team that is numerically under strength has a right to the saved wages. Under the experiment the plant's wage fund has been reduced. This however does not apply to nearby enterprises not taking part in the experiment. There is no guarantee therefore that, even given the shortage of manpower, they will not siphon off some of the work force.

Second -- The plant is a leader in its subsector in that it uses only 400 cubic meters of gas to produce 1 metric ton of glass. Now an even tighter normative -- 350 cubic meters of gas -- has been set. "The experiment is only just beginning and one of its main principles has already been violated -- the scientific substantiation of its normatives."

Third -- Before the experiment the plant had room to maneuver: "Knowing that suppliers might let us down, we laid out raw and other materials in good time, when the railroad was not encumbered and trucks were available. Now stringent normatives do not permit to lay in such stocks. There are tremendous difficulties with marketing. Last September with 2 months' output in warehouses we failed to fulfill the sales plan because of a shortage of trucks. The situation will become even more complex when the terms of the experiment are fully enforced."

In conclusion, Korenev remarks with satisfaction that the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session noted that by no means everything has as yet been done by ministries to ensure that enterprises achieve higher technical and economic indicators in the near future.

DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET FOOD INDUSTRY REPORTED

LD181825 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 18 TASS -- The USSR food industry outstrips many other industries in its development. During three years of the five-year period (1981-1985) capital investments into the food industry increased by 12 percent as compared with the corresponding three years of the previous five-year plan period. More than 500 big plants and factories were built or thoroughly modernized over these years, let alone enterprises of vegetable, canned foods and fish industry.

More than 200,000 tons of products are put out a year by new confectionery enterprises and production shops alone.

The USSR holds one of the leading places for sugar production. The build up of production capacities continued also in that industry. A number of sugar refineries were built, each with a daily capacity of processing 6,000 tons of sugar beets. Part of the equipment for those refineries was supplied from the Polish People's Republic.

The industry now has enterprises which put out products unknown in the country before. A plant to produce edible vegetable protein was built in Chernovtsiy (Ukraine). Protein, a substitute for animal protein, is produced there from soya. It is used in confectionery, meat and other products. The productivity of the plant is 5 tons of protein per day. As the technology improves, the industry intends to develop such productions, including processing of sunflower seeds. This is the direction that might bring a rise in the production of protein, which is still in short supply, specialists believe.

The production of the so-called surface-active agents was launched at a plant in Gorky, on the Volga. These agents are used in the making of many products. These agents make bread lighter and improve its taste, make better chrystallisation of sugar, are used instead of eggs in many confectionery products, and find broad application in cosmetics. Vegetable and animal fats are [word indistinct] the raw material for these agents.

CHEMICAL PLANT POLLUTES CRIMEAN RESORT

PM191455 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 January 1984 First Edition publishes on page 3 under the heading "Health of the Resort; Returning to a Previously Printed Item" a 1,700-word undated Saki-Moscow report by special correspondent M. Buzhkevich. "For the fifth time in a relatively short period -- less than 3 and 1/2 years -- PRAVDA is discussing the acute problem of the all-union resort of Saki," PRAVDA's introduction to the article states. "Saki's lakeside chemical plant is continuing to pollute the environment, jeopardizing the resort's future."

Buzhkevich traces the history of the pollution problem, citing instances of the plant's failure to carry out promised antipollution measures. Despite the findings of the USSR Council of Ministers Commission on Environmental Conservation and the Rational Utilization of Natural Resources, which stated that the Ministry of the Chemical Industry was performing its conservation tasks unsatisfactorily at its Crimean Oblast enterprises, "the ministry and plant, as though they hadn't heard, are persistently asserting the opposite -- that the enterprise is not harming the resort."

However, Buzhkevich says, a conference of experts in Saki last January concluded that "the further joint functioning of the chemical production facilities and the resort is impossible."

"That means," Buzhkevich argues, "that the plant must be dismantled. The Crimean Obkom and the competent republican organs are of the same opinion. Of course, relocating an enterprise is no simple matter," but, he concludes, the problem must be resolved, "and the sooner the better."

BETTER MILITARY TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY URGED

PM191451 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jan 84 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Handling Weapons and Equipment Skillfully"]

[Text] The Communist Party and the Soviet Government, while pursuing a firm course of maintaining peace and preventing nuclear war in the present, sharply exacerbated international situation, for which imperialist circles are to blame, are constantly concerned to ensure the country's security and to equip our Armed Forces with everything they need. The Army and Navy have various classes of highly reliable and accurate missiles, ships capable of negotiating any distance, aircraft with a great range of fighting capabilities, fast, powerfully armed tanks and infantry combat vehicles, and reliable, accurate small-arms weapons. In-depth study and practical mastery of new equipment task for Army and Navy personnel are a most important condition for the high combat readiness of units and ships.

Soviet servicemen, in implementing the decisions of our party's 26th Congress, of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June and December (1983) Plenums, and the instructions of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov on defense issues, are tirelessly raising the combat readiness of the Army and Navy, persistently improving their skill, and studying everything that is essential to modern battle. They are striving to master their equipment and weapons more thoroughly and become truly skilled in their combat use. During training sessions in classes, or in the field, during drill, exercises, flights, and on sea voyages Soviet servicemen are learning the skill of extracting from their equipment and arms everything that is provided for by their tactical and technical characteristics: hitting targets at maximum range with the first shot, launch, or approach, by day or night, and in any weather conditions, making full use of the high-speed and high-altitude capabilities, and of the maneuverability and protection afforded by combat machines, and achieving the stable functioning of technical facilities under the most complex conditions.

High skill and the ability to make effective use of organic arms and combat hardware and to maintain them in exemplary conditions is shown, for example, by the servicemen of the missile unit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel A. Pavlov. The personnel technical training system prevailing in the unit is being constantly improved on the basis of advanced experience and enriched by new modes and methods. The training courses carried out with military training establishment graduates in equipment and arms, involving simulators and other auxiliary means of instruction, and the methods of conducting technical training exercises have thus given a good account of themselves. More thorough mastery of equipment and weapons is being actively furthered by socialist competition. The unit commander, the staff, and the party and Komsomol organizations are directing their efforts toward ensuring unconditional and total fulfillment by the servicemen of their adopted pledges, which lay down high targets for the development of their technical skills, the care of equipment, and saving in fuel and lubricants. The missilemen are carrying out their duties to a high standard, and are implementing the drive for mastering allied specialisms and for exceeding the normatives in work with equipment, taking as their motto: "New equipment needs a higher level of mastery!"

The experience of the missile unit commanded by Lt Col A. Pavlov and of other pacesetting units and ships that the commanders' tactical maturity and broad technical purview figures very forcefully in their successes.

The effectiveness of the use of the means of armed struggle and the attainment of victory in modern battle depend to an enormous degree on the commander's tactical skill and his in-depth knowledge of both his own armaments and the potential of the enemy's armaments. Therefore, special attention in the system of professional training for officer personnel, and particularly for the command level, must be paid to questions of a military-technical nature and of tactics, which are inextricably connected. Commanders, staffs, and chiefs of services and categories of troops must concern themselves above all else with ensuring that the tactical, firing, technical, and special training programs are fulfilled to a high standard and that each minute of training time is used productively. It is essential to make full use of the favorable opportunities afforded during exercises, sea voyages, flights, and missile launches, as well as during the carrying out of periodic technical servicing and other kinds of equipment maintenance, in order to resolve specific tasks in the practical mastering of weapons and equipment.

Unfortunately, the personnel's military-technical training still does not meet modern requirements everywhere. Some units pay insufficient attention to questions of creatively seeking the most efficient ways of using weapons and combat hardware, improving officers' tactical repertoire, and the instruction methodology. Some commanders are poorly supported by the engineering and technical personnel in the organization of the study and servicing of equipment and the ensuring of its correct operation and exemplary maintenance. However, its role in modern conditions is growing all the time. This is explained by the widespread introduction of means of automation and mechanization into troops' activity, including the sphere of battle control, by the increased demands on equipment's operational reliability, and by the reduced time taken to make weapons systems combat-ready.

The state of the training equipment supplies and their correspondence to modern requirements is an important indicator of the effectiveness of technical training in a unit or on a ship. Exercises and training carried out with simulators and other auxiliary training facilities ensure the mastery of modern weapons within short periods of time with a minimum expenditure of material resources.

Work to maintain a high level of technical discipline based on in-depth knowledge and precise observance by specialists of the rules, instructions, directions, and manuals for the storage, repair, operation, and combat use of equipment and arms must occupy a considerable place in the activity of commanders, staffs, and party organizations within the context of the measures aimed at ensuring a high level of technical and special training for personnel and the maintenance of arms and equipment in constant readiness for combat use. The inculcation in servicemen of high assiduity and the habit of not tolerating the slightest deviation from the prescribed norms in working with technical equipment guarantees its reliability and freedom from breakdown when in operation.

The example of true experts in military matters and of people who have a perfect command of equipment and weapons, is required to play a considerable role in mobilizing the personnel to constantly improve their technical knowledge. It is essential to carefully train top-class masters and specialists by using these experts' experience. Practice shows that the combination of planned training sessions with independent study and work in technical study circles has the greatest effect here.

All the forms and methods of party-political work must be fully and efficiently used to inculcate in servicemen the desire to handle equipment and weapons in a skillful way.

Commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations are called upon to make every serviceman deeply aware of the need for high vigilance and combat readiness and to inculcate in them on this basis a sense of responsibility for their own training and the mastery and care of equipment entrusted to them. Military-technical propaganda aimed at bringing up servicemen in the spirit of an innovatory and creative attitude toward the use of equipment and weapons, and the dissemination of the experience of top-class specialists, masters, and those who are excellent-rated in training must be regarded as an integral part of party-political work.

Winter combat training offers a great opportunity for personnel to gain an excellent mastery of their equipment and weapons. Achieving this will make an important contribution to the successful solution of the tasks set by the USSR Defense Ministry for the 1984 training year and to further raising of our Armed Forces' combat readiness.

PROSECUTOR EXPLAINS MILITARY LAW CHANGES

PM191038 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jan 84 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Colonel General Justice A. Gornyy, chief military prosecutor: "In Interests of Combat Readiness. Chief Military Prosecutor Answers Newspaper Reader's Questions" -- first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] Esteemed editorial board! I recently read a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA report on changes in military criminal legislation. What is the nature of these changes and what prompted them? What tasks arise for commanders and political workers in this connection?

Senior Lieutenant A. Gavrilyuk

It is well known that the law on criminal responsibility for military crimes currently in force was adopted in 1958. Substantial changes have occurred in the country and in our Armed Forces since then. These changes have been reflected in the new USSR Constitution, the law on universal military service, the general military regulations, and other documents. Clearly, appropriate amendments had to be made to criminal legislation, including military criminal legislation.

Let us not forget, either, that the aggressiveness of imperialism, and especially U.S. imperialism, is constantly growing. At present it is manifested most openly and most consistently. This demands the further enhancement of Soviet servicemen's vigilance, discipline, and organization and the enhancement of every serviceman's personal responsibility for the combat readiness of his subunit or unit. Measures of a legal nature are called upon to play a certain role in this, along with other measures.

In regard to the actual amendments and additions to the law, we should first dwell upon those which are aimed at ensuring the precise execution by servicemen of the regulations governing combat duty and guard duty. The circle of people on whom the prevention of a surprise attack on our country directly depends has substantially expanded over the past years. At the same time, criminal proceedings for breaches of the regulations governing the execution of combat duty could previously be instituted only against members of the duty shift of the combat team (crew, post, or other duty subunit). Now the article in question can be applied to other servicemen assigned to fulfill a combat task. In the case of breaches of guard duty regulations, if they had not led to harmful consequences, criminal proceedings were instituted only when the breach had occurred in guard details and posts protecting especially important facilities. Under the new legal provisions, they are instituted regardless of the nature of the facility protected by the guard detail.

The grounds for and nature of servicemen's liability for leaving their unit or place of service without authorization have been amended in the law. Liability is increased when the culprit is absent from duty for a long time. A new element of crime is introduced in respect of officers, ensigns, warrant officers, and serviceman on extended duty, this being repeated absences from duty, each lasting over 3 days, within the same year.

The law's provisions on responsibility for official crimes have also been amended. Previously there was no provision for differentiation between actions such as, say, the abuse of official position and a negligent attitude toward duty. And yet the social danger of such actions is, of course, not equivalent. So now the various abuses by officials, and also their criminal inaction, will be examined on the basis of a special article. Furthermore, the criminal responsibility of the persons guilty of such crimes cannot be replaced by disciplinary measures, as was the case up till now. Negligence will entail criminal responsibility only when substantial damage is caused.

The law approaches in a new fashion the assessment of nonregulation relations between servicemen. It is well known that the regulations oblige us all to value military comradeship, help our comrades by word and deed, restrain them from unworthy actions, and deliver them from danger without sparing our own lives. In addressing one another all servicemen must always observe the rules of courtesy and show restraint. I think that there is no need to explain how important this is for the cohesion of troop collectives and for enhancing their combat capability. A special article in the military criminal legislation is specifically meant to serve as an additional guarantee of the protection of the Soviet soldier's personal dignity. Under the article any physical violence against the person is liable to a penalty of up to 2 years' imprisonment. If the victim is caused bodily harm, or if other aggravating circumstances exist, the perpetrator can be punished even more strictly -- by imprisonment for up to 12 years.

Another new article is devoted to the fulfillment of the rules for handling weapons and other objects and substances which represent an increased danger to people in the area. I imagine that everyone easily understands the appearance of this article. Servicemen constantly have to deal with weapons, ammunition, and other dangerous objects and substances. In order to avoid trouble they must strictly observe the appropriate rules, orders, and instructions. By creating criminal responsibility for their violation if this has entailed particular serious consequences, our state is stepping up its concern for the safety and health of Soviet citizens, including, of course, the servicemen themselves.

Several other amendments and additions have been made to the law on criminal responsibility for military crimes. They all came into force 1 January this year. All servicemen can familiarize themselves with them at their units, on their ships, and in military institutions and organizations. In addition, commanders and political officers themselves must study all the changes in the legislation and organize study sessions on them with their subordinates. All forms of instruction and educational work must be used for this purpose, and the assistance of military legal personnel must be actively relied on. It is necessary to establish in troop collectives an atmosphere of regulation exactingness and implacability toward any deviation from the procedures and rules of military service.

I believe that this work will help to further improve the legal education of servicemen. It is important for each of them to appreciate that our laws and regulations reflect the objective requirements of the socialist state and its Armed Forces and accord with the interests both of society as a whole and of each citizen. The requirements of Soviet law are always just, morally justified, and purposeful. This is why they must be observed always and everywhere and, so to speak, not through fear but through conscience, with a profound awareness of personal responsibility for our motherland's security.

GORSHKOV ATTENDS NAVY PARTY CONFERENCE

PM181524 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jan 84 Second Edition p 2

[Captain 1st Rank V. Goncharov report: "Party Conference"]

[Text] A party conference has been held in the Main Staff and directorates of the Navy's commander in chief. The report by Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S. Gorshkov, Navy commander in chief and USSR deputy defense minister, and the speeches by Comrades P. Medvedev, G. Kuznetsov, G. Bondarenko, V. Kharitonov, K. Mukhin, G. Getmanov, V. Ivanov, Ye. Pechurov, N. Orlov, and others analyzed from the standpoint of the requirements of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and the instructions of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov a wide range of key problems of party-political work to ensure high standards of combat readiness and discipline and outlined specific ways to further enhance communists' responsibility for the state of affairs in the sector entrusted to them.

The conference delegates also discussed a report on the work done by the political department party commission delivered by Captain 1st Rank L. Grigoryev.

Z. Zakhartsev, executive of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the conference's work.

KURKOTKIN ADDRESSES RAILROAD TROOPS CONFERENCE

PM191640 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 January 1984 Second Edition publishes on page 2 under the rubric "Party Conferences" a 1,600-word report by correspondent engineer Colonel L. Nechayuk entitled "Responding with Action." It gives an account of the party conference of the Soviet railroad troops (place and date not specified), at which the report was delivered by Lieutenant General A. Stolyarov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Railroad Troops Political Directorate. The conference was reportedly addressed by Colonel General M. Makartsev, chief of the railroad troops. The report includes the following information:

"The conference was addressed by I. Sosnov, USSR minister of transport construction, and Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services.

"Participating in the work of the party conference were V. Drugov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Administrative Organs department; Colonel General M. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; L. Borisov, secretary of Moscow Gorkom; and Colonel General of Technical Troops A. Klemin, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Central Military Transportation Directorate."